

# BANGLADESH HOUSING LAND AND PROPERTY RIGHTS INITIATIVE



## Progress Report (Extension period)

(March'14 to August'14)

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**Displacement Solutions**

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**Young Power in Social Action (YPSA)**



DISPLACEMENT  
SOLUTIONS



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## **Introduction**

Climate Change induced displacement has got vast importance in recent years as one of the major consequences of climate change impact. Climate change is one of the greatest challenges facing the world today and the individuals and communities displaced from their homes and lands as a result of climate change are the human face of this tragedy. Climate displacement is already underway in Bangladesh as many other countries, and expected to affect many tens of millions of people in coming decades.

Various international publications recurrently label Bangladesh as the most vulnerable country due to the effects of climate change. The geographic location and geo-morphological conditions of Bangladesh have made the country more susceptible to environmental change and natural disasters. Bangladesh has ranked fifth among 10 countries most vulnerable to climate change-induced natural disasters in the last two decades from 1993 to 2012, according to the Climate Risk Index (CRI), 2014 by Germanwatch.<sup>1</sup> During this period, Bangladesh suffered damages worth US\$1,832.70 million, wrought by 242 types of natural catastrophes.

Climate scientists have recently claimed that they expect rising sea levels to “submerge 17 percent of Bangladesh’s land and displace 18 million people in the next 40 years”.<sup>2</sup> In the absence of effective regional or international protection mechanisms,<sup>3</sup> it is expected that the vast majority of these persons will be displaced within the borders of Bangladesh. A number of scientific reports confirm that a large number of people have already been displaced in Bangladesh because of the direct effects of climate change, and the number is likely to increase considerably in the future.<sup>4</sup> Bangladesh suffers from regular natural hazards, including floods, tropical cyclones, storm surges and droughts. These hazards are already leading to the loss and destruction of housing, land and property, the loss of livelihoods and widespread displacement across the country. Among the 64 districts of Bangladesh, 26 coastal and mainland districts are already producing climate displacement.<sup>5</sup>

According to a recent report, over 35 million people will be displaced from 19 coastal districts of Bangladesh in the event of a 1-meter sea level rise this century.<sup>6</sup> But there is no comprehensive national policy in Bangladesh that specifically targets climate displacement. In the Climate Change Strategy and

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<sup>1</sup> Germanwatch, 2013. Global Climate Risk Index 2014 : Who Suffers Most from Extreme Weather Events? Weather-Related Loss Events in 2012 and 1993 to 2012, 28p.

<sup>2</sup> New York Times, Borrowed Time on Disappearing Land Facing Rising Seas, Bangladesh Confronts the Consequences of Climate Change, 28 March 2014, available at: [http://www.nytimes.com/2014/03/29/world/asia/facing-rising-seas-bangladesh-confronts-the-consequences-of-climate-change.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/03/29/world/asia/facing-rising-seas-bangladesh-confronts-the-consequences-of-climate-change.html?_r=0)

<sup>3</sup> See Displacement Solutions, *Climate Displacement in Bangladesh: The Urgent Need for Housing, Land and Property Solutions*, 2012.

<sup>4</sup> Gaim Kibreab, 2010. ‘Climate Change and Human Migration: A Tenuous Relationship?’ *Fordham Environmental Law Review* 357- 373.

<sup>5</sup> Displacement Solutions, 2012. *Climate Displacement in Bangladesh: The Need for urgent Housing, Land and Property Solutions*, May, 2012, 35.

<sup>6</sup> Rabbani, M. G. 2009. Climate forced migration: A massive threat to coastal people in Bangladesh, Clime Asia: Climate Action Network-South Asia newsletter, BCAS, Dhaka.

Action Plan (BCCSAP, 2009) Government of Bangladesh expressed its concern about forced migration and urges necessity of addressing the issue with rights of free mobility for these people.

In many cases, the policies and institutional frameworks are not sufficient to protect the displaced people. The rehabilitation of displaced persons by government and non-government sectors are, to date, insignificant in terms of the total number of displaced persons. Importantly, livelihood problems remain after the rehabilitation of displaced persons. There should be a rights-based solution to this problem. There should be initiatives to generate sustainable employment opportunity for the rehabilitated climate displaced persons.

To face the challenge of mass displacement as a result of climate Change, YPSA started Bangladesh Housing, Land and Property (HLP) rights initiative with the support of Displacement Solutions to identify rights-based solutions and actions for climate displaced Peoples. After successfully completion of first initiative (HLP 2012), DS further extended collaboration with YPSA for the Bangladesh Housing, Land and Property (HLP-2013) Rights Initiative from March, 2013 to February, 2014. The project then again extended from March, 2014 to August, 2014. This narrative report will illustrate the progress of extended period of HLP-2013 from March to August, 2014 in details again the agreed activities as per TOR.

**Overall Objective of the Project:**

To identify rights-based solutions and actions that could be undertaken to resolve the displacement of these climate-affected communities as well as to ensure and safeguard their housing, land and property rights.

Major activities of extension period of HLP-2014 (1 March–31 August, 2014) include the Guidance Note Development for *Khas* Land Distribution, land acquisition process documentation; Enhancing work with legal groups through formation of Lawyer’s Forum; Translation, publication and distribution of “Peninsula Principals on Climate Displacement within Bangladesh” Report; publish comprehensive mapping study on climate displacement issue “Climate Displacement in Bangladesh: Stakeholders, Laws and Policies - Mapping the Existing Institutional Framework”; advocacy, and awareness-raising on solutions to climate displacement in Bangladesh through media campaign and round table discussion; and hosting a visit of DS representative Zeke Simperingham in Bangladesh for meeting with high officials of international donor organizations.

## **Progress Report (Extension Period)**

### **Introductory Activities:**

YPSA and DS have successfully completed first HLP initiative (HLP 2012) in Bangladesh from April 2012 to February 2013. DS further extended collaboration with YPSA for the Bangladesh Housing, Land and Property (HLP-2013) Rights Initiative from March, 2013 to February 28, 2014. After successfully completion of previous period activities, YPSA and DS then further discusses for continuing the corroboration for additional 6 months from 1 March, 2014 to 31 August, 2014. There were some introductory activities of this extension period of HLP project as follows.

### **Finalization TOR, receiving LOC and Budget Break up for HLP 2013**

After successfully finished the phase-11 (1 March, 2013 to 21 February, 2014), YPSA and DS started discussion for extension the collaboration. Md. Arfiur Rahman, Chief Executive of YPSA sent the e-mail to Mr. Scott, Displacement Solution on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2014 asking for planning and funding the project from March, 2014. After that Mr. Ezekiel Simperinghram, Focal Person of Bangladesh HLP Initiative of DS sent the e-mail to YPSA about the planning of next 6 months activities from 1 March, 2014 to 31 August, 2014 and accordingly YPSA submitted draft activities to DS. Latter on DS and YPSA agreed to some specific activities for extension period and letter of commitment is provided by DS. But as per NGO Bureau suggestion DS modified letter of commitment again and sent to YPSA on 14 May, 2014. During the visit of Mr. Zeke in Bangladesh the TOR was almost finalized with the discussion with YPSA, which was sent to YPSA on 23 May, 2014 for signing and finally jointly signed. This letter of commitment and TOR both are essential for submission of project to the Bangladesh Govt. for getting approval.

In the TOR consolidated amount of money was allocated for each of activity. But to get NGOB permission it was necessary to break up of budget of each sup-project/major activity including human resources. Hence a clause was incorporated to the TOR that a detail break up of budget will have to be prepared by YPSA and accordingly submitted to DS for approval. As per TOR, YPSA prepared a detailed budget with break up and submitted to DS and finally DS gave approval this break up budget to go forward.

### **NGO Bureau approval process**

As per the Bangladesh Govt. law no foreign fund can be received and utilized without getting approval from relevant Govt. department i.e. NGO Appears Bureau (NGOAB) under Prime Minister Office. After having LOC from DS, YPSA prepared application as per prescribed format (FD-2 and FD-6) of NGOAB for submission and approval of project. As this project submitted as extension of current project so it took less time to get approval than initial project.

## Accomplishment of planned activities in the extension period

### 1. Land Acquisition for Climate Displaced Persons

According to the TOR it was desired that YPSA would engage in the land acquisition process for climate displaced persons across Bangladesh to resolve the climate displacement and protect the rights of climate displaced persons. To fulfill the requirement of TOR and achieve the objective of this project, YPSA did small group meeting with different relevant stakeholders and government officials to know the in-depth situation of accessing to Government/*khas* land by climate displaced persons; provided orientation to the YPSA's local level field staffs on *khas* land distribution policy including their facilitating role; as well as reviewed the existing policies, manuals and circulars for developing guidance note for access of *khas* land/ Government land for climate displaced persons.

#### 1.1 Meeting with Officials of Govt. land Office about *Khas* land Distribution

To know the *khas* land distribution policy to landless peoples and real situation in Bangladesh YPSA met with Mr. Abdullah Al Mamun, Assistant Commissioner (Land) of Sitakund Upazila; Shibu Kumar Barua, Tahashildar (local revenue collector) of Upazila Land Officer, Rangunia; Fazla Alahi, Assistant Commissioner (Land) of Mirsarai Upazila. YPSA discussed with them about the real situation of *khas* land distribution process of landless peoples in Bangladesh. They said, process of *khas* land identification and equitable distribution is based on government policies and the regulatory framework especially "Land Reform Ordinance-1984" and *khas* land management and distribution policies of 1987 and 1997, which provided concrete directions towards establishing national and local level committees for overseeing *khas* land identification and distribution, landless identification and prioritization process. They also provided some recent circulars and documents relevant to the *khas* land distribution process.



#### 1.2 Meeting with NGOs and Civil Society Representatives in Noakhali about Char Development and Settlement Project (CDSP-IV)

The Char Development and Settlement Project (CDSP) works to support families to build their lives on this new land, including through ensuring effective management of water resources, protection against tidal and storm surges, and improving drainage capacity. Since 1994, one of the aims of the CDSP is to improve security of tenure for persons living in *char* areas, through providing households with a secure land title. CDSP project-IV has been implemented in *char* areas since March, 2011 and will continue up to March, 2017 by the four NGOs like BRAC, Sagarika Samaj Unnayan Sangstha (SSUS), Dwip Unnayan Sangstha (DUS), Social Development Initiatives (SDI).

YPSA discussed with relevant stakeholders about the rights of climate displaced peoples and activities of CDSP project-IV. The participants said that CDSP-Phase IV is a multi-sector rural development project

with funds from IFAD, Government of Bangladesh and Government of the Netherlands, is being implemented in five chars in the Southern part of Noakhali district with an estimated 30,000 households. This shall be achieved through the following five components: (i) protection from climate change; (ii) internal infrastructure; (iii) land settlement and titling; (iv) livelihood support; and (v) technical assistance and management support.

During the meeting YPSA representative Mr. Prabal Barua described that Climate Displaced people become landless, homeless and asset less persons when displaced from their living places. They faced livelihood insecurity, deprived from basic services like food, education, health, safe water and sanitation facilities and lastly they lost their cultural harmony. So, they should be ensured housing, land and property including other rights.



Representatives from partners NGOs of CDSP project said that *Khas* land Distribution in the char area is being implemented by the Ministry of Land through district administration under CDSP-IV since 2011. This processes include plot-to-plot survey to identify parcels of land and their current occupiers, followed by a six step process for registration of title which is carried out by the land staff of the local administration. They also said that NGOs are providing micro-finance services to the groups of peoples who obtain the *khas* land by Government. Besides, they are supporting livelihood development at the homestead level (including homestead agriculture, forestry and non-farm enterprises), legal rights and awareness raising on health and family planning, disaster management and climate change issue. This support is particularly targeted the women.

In a summary, it can be said that CDSP-IV has been working with peoples who are living in char area of Noakhali came from different climate change induced natural disaster affected areas. They lived there in a horrible situation depriving adequate housing and basic facilities of live. CDSP Project has been providing legal title to the *char* dwellers on their living land as well as other capacity development and awareness raising support. Though there is controversy of security from natural hazard but due to legal ownership over land by displaced people so this types of project should be introduced by Government in other disaster affected areas to resolve the worst situation of climate displaced people.

### **1.3 Meeting with Officials of Char Development and Settlement Project (CDSP-IV)**

YPSA met with Mr. Zainal Abedin, Deputy Team Leader (Human Resources), Md. Bazrul Karim, Agriculture Specialist and Sadequl Islam, Deputy Team Leader (NGO and Livelihoods) individually for sharing the climate displacement initiative by YPSA and CDSP-IV project activities.

They said that this project is implementing newly established char where landless peoples are living after losing everything by erosion or other natural hazards. There is no legal entitlement for compensation. The newly accreted land becomes property of the government *khas* land. The only chance a family, whose land has been washed away, has, is to receive some *khas* land from the government, often after prolong persuasions.”

Since its first phase (1994-1999), CDSP has been working to support the rural women and men occupying land on the chars to receive legal titles. The first step of this process is the production of a settlement map. During a plot-to-plot-survey (PTPS), cartographers, measure each and every plot, draw an exact map of the land by cadastral surveys and note the details on the inhabitants. The maps and the information about the families are then deposited in the Upazila Land Office. Land settlement to the landless household are conducted by the government's land offices according to the provisions of the Agricultural *Khas* Land Management and Settlement Act.



“Under CDSP we have introduced a number of innovative activities in land management systems to ensure the titling of the land in an open, transparent and hassle free process, so that the land can be used for the welfare and economic development of the respective family on a permanent basis,” explained Sadequl Islam, Deputy Team leader of CDSP-IV. “These can be scaled-up in other parts of the country as well.”

They said that CDSP IV is applying an integrated development approach, to improve the economic situation and living conditions on the Chars. In addition to the land rights activities, six implementing agencies, four NGOs and a technical assistance team work closely together to strengthen protection from climate change, build climate resilient infrastructure, provide livelihood support, such as health services and legal education, and support the establishment of field-level institutions.



#### **1.4 Development of Guidance Note of *Khas* Land Distribution to Climate displaced persons**

After the exclusive interview with land officials, meeting with CDSP project team, CDSP partner NGOs and orientation to YPSA officials and reviewing the existing *khas* land related documents, YPSA developed the Guidance Note of “Access to *Khas* Land for Climate Displaced Persons in Bangladesh”, which briefly discussed the eleven stages of *khas* land distribution based on existing policy and manuals. This also includes the *khas* land distribution and Land settlement and titling activities for landless peoples under Char Development and Settlement Project. The guidance note has been reviewed by Mr. Ezekiel Simperingham, Displacement Solutions (DS). Before finalization of guidance note, YPSA shared the draft final guidance note with two Assistant Commissioner (Land) of Bogra District for verify the *khas* land distribution process mentioned in the guidance note whether it is in line with the Government *Khas* land

Policy and strategy. They have given positive comment on the guidance note for *khas* land distribution process for climate displaced persons with the clearance that it is in line with government policy and manuals.

The following ordinances, manuals, programmes and policies provide the basis for the distribution of agricultural *khas* land under the Land Management Manual:

- The 1984 Land Reform Ordinance
- The 1987 Land Reform Action Program
- The 1997 Agricultural *Khas* Land Management and Settlement Policy (and subsequent amendments)

Based on these laws and policies, the process for distributing *khas* land has been divided into the following 11 stages from identification of *khas* land to handover the *khas* land to applicant landless families as follows:

- The identification of *khas* land
- Publication of notice of all agricultural *khas* lands
- Preparation of *khas* land for distribution
- Applications for agricultural *khas* Land from landless families
- Selection of landless families for agricultural *khas* land
- Decision process for plot distribution to landless families
- Preparation of case file for settlement
- Khas* land settlement
- Registration of distributed *khas* land
- Formal meeting for handover of the *khas* land settlement document
- Conditions of *khas* land possession

NGOs can also support land less people through facilitating the entire process of agriculture *khas* land distribution as mentioned in the Land Management Manual, 1990.

The Char Development and Settlement Project (CDSP) works to support families to build their lives on this new land since 1994, one of the aims of the CDSP is to improve security of tenure for persons living in *char* areas, through providing households with a secure land title. The land settlement process under the CDSP-IV follows the provisions of the Agricultural *Khas* land Management and Settlement Act and can be divided into the following 3 stages :

- Production of settlement map
- Consolidation of the map and information on landless households
- Issuance of the Official Land Title

This Guidance Note seeks to clarify how climate displaced persons and their advocates can access and utilize these existing processes to access new parcels of land within Bangladesh. This Guidance Note is also intended to be useful for Government officials and representatives seeking to improve the current *khas* land distribution processes. Finally, it is intended that this Guidance Note will be useful for the

regional and international communities for the challenge of climate displacement in Bangladesh is not one to be faced alone but must be addressed with regional and international support and cooperation.

## **1.5 Pilot/case study support to a climate displaced family**

### **1.5.1 Orientation to YPSA Officials on Govt. *Khas* land distribution**

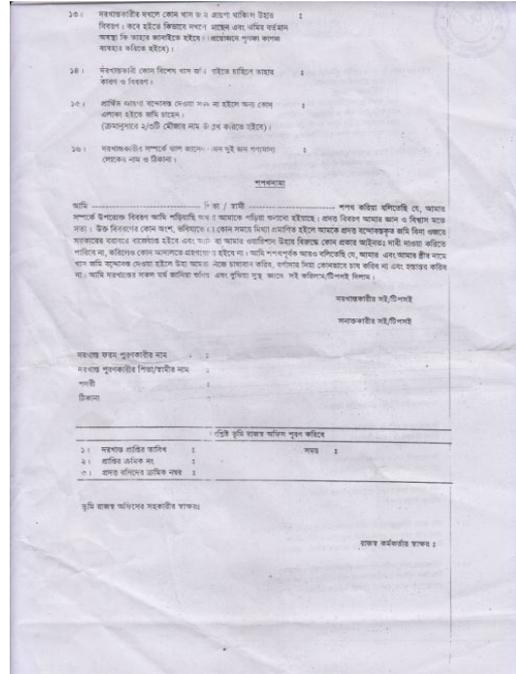
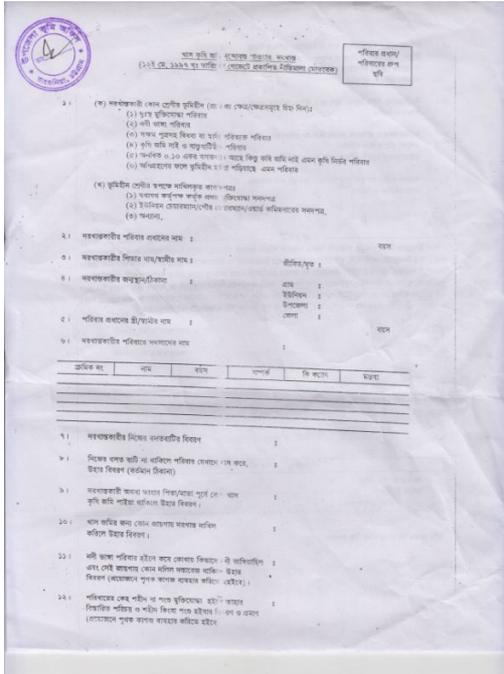
An orientation program with field staffs of YPSA for facilitation on *khas* land distribution for landless/climate displaced peoples held on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2014 at YPSA head office. After self introduction, Md. Arifur Rahman, Chief Executive of YPSA said that ensuring land rights of climate displaced peoples will be the future working strategy for YPSA and objective of orientation program is to link the landless and displaced person with government *khas* land whenever there is scope. So, we should facilitate the landless peoples during *khas* land distribution and provide all kinds of support for them. Mohammad Shahjahan, Team Leader of YPSA-HLP project, discussed detail on climate displacement issue and agriculture *khas* land distribution process including the discussion of application filling up process. He also discussed the role of NGOs in the *khas* land distribution system and future role of YPSA in the process.

After the orientation, YPSA officials met with respective land officials of Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Feni, Lakhmipur, Comilla districts for find out the real scenario of *khas* land distribution and rehabilitation process of landless peoples in Government Land. Usually announcement for *khas* land distribution take place once in a year if there is available and suitable agricultural *khas* land for distribution. The local land officials said many landless poor people already occupied *khas* land in different parts of the country without any legal document. We have been given direction to prepare documents of the *khas* land and distribute those among such occupiers with legal document if they are really landless and matches with the criteria of *khas* land distribution. They said transfer of *khas* land from the Government to an individual is a complex and lengthy process. Currently an application passes through several Government offices including the Union and Upazila level land offices along with the Sub-Registrar's office usually takes around one year. During the conversation with land officials, it is assured that from the next time YPSA officials will be involved with landless identification and facilitation process. But it is unfortunate that option to include NGO representative in the committee of *khas* land distribution process has been omitted as per the latest circular of ministry of land.

The major problems of distribution of *Khas* land among landless and other poor people are:

- Political influence
- Corruption
- Poor are helpless against their powerful counterpart.
- Limited administrative support in reality for retaining control over land and conducting litigation.
- Very critical and long process with so many recommendation.

The Application for *Khas* Land Distribution is shared below;



### 1.5.2 Case study of rehabilitated climate displaced families in Government Ashrayan project

YPSA documented a case of a victim (displaced) of river erosion of Rangunia, who had been facilitated by the YPSA Rangunia staff by ensuring recommendation of Mr. Jashim Uddin, municipality councillor, Ward no.-9, Rangunia as well as providing other support like application process and verification by respective Ashrayan project officials.

#### **Rustam Ali starts his second phase of life**

Rustam Ali (40) lived in Rashidia Para of Mariamnagar Union of Rangunia with his wife and three children. He cultivated betel leaf in his own land and was earning 5000-6000 Tk. in a week by selling betel leaf in the local market. He also cultivated paddy and other crops taking land lease from other person. He was passing good life with his small family and started to dream for more better life. But Karnaphuli river destroyed his dream and made him displaced person. It should be mentioned here that over the last five years thousands of families became homeless from Betagi, Shilak, Chandraghona, Rajanagar, Parua, Kodala, Pomra Union of the Ranguia Upazila due to Karnaphuli and Ichamati river erosion and forced to live in the temporary houses besides the road, hill slopes and other lands. Rustom Ali lost everything in the river including his house, homestead and agriculture land. He forced to leave his own village and take shelter



to his brother's home at nearby union of Rangunia Upazila. His children had to stop education temporarily as school was also eroded by river. Losing livelihood dropped him into the very miserable condition.

Rustam Ali didn't know how to get *khas* land or housing facility from Government. He met with a YPSA-Rangunia Field staff (Mr. Jigarul Islam) for taking his assistance and Mr. Jigar assured him to facilitate the process. While Rangunia Upazila Administration circulated the notice seeking application for allocation housing in Ashrayan project through a prescribed form. Rustam Ali was provided all sorts of assistances including filling up application, taking recommendation of Mr. Jashim Uddin, municipality counsellor, Ward no.-9, Rangunia as well as providing support during verification by Upazila land office, District administration, Bangladesh Army representatives. At last Rustam Ali got permanent shelter in Ashrayan project in 2013, five years later of losing his home and land.



Rustam Ali and his family now happy having shelter in the Ashrayan project but he said 'there are some limitations in this Ashrayan project like limited livelihood scope, communication in the rainy season as it located 1000 fit hill top, lack of electricity and water facility. For collecting water we are to move down 500 fit". He received loan from NGO for buying the Rickshaw Van and pulling Rickshaw Van for surviving along with cultivating vegetables in the hilly area. He is now earning Tk. 300-350 per day by pulling Rickshaw Van.

### ***Recommendations for targeted advocacy to improve existing land distribution and access to housing***

- **National level:** Continuous advocacy for taking focus of respective government high officials, policy makers, political leaders and civil society to the rights of climate displaced persons through prioritizing *khas* land distribution and special rehabilitation scheme for climate displaced persons ensuring other basic facilities.
- **Local level:** In Bangladesh, corruption and political influences are common in all type of *khas* land distribution and house allocation in the government Gucchagram and Ashrayan project. There is way to continuous communication and lobbying with respective officials as well as building good relation with local influential persons to facilitate the process of distribution either it is land or houses on behalf of displaced people.
- Establish strategic partnership with other NGOs those working with *khas* land for landless people and NGOs providing legal support to them.

### **1.6 Identify specific plots of land for purchase to relocate climate displaced communities**

To find the plot of land suitable for purchase to provide new lands and new homes to climate displaced persons on those plots of land, YPSA visited Mirsarai, Sitakund, Rangunia and Banskhal

upazila of Chittagong district as sample basis. All those upazilas have potentiality to rehabilitate people through purchasing land as these upazilas have already displaced people itself or people are moving to these upazilas as neighbor and primary destination. It is always easier to purchase land in Bangladesh though price is vary in place to place. To rehabilitate or relocate people in the purchased land is durable and hassle free than any other type of land. Based on the visit in the above mentioned places, some land plots identified as suitable for purchase, which are depicted below with the information of location, size of land, current price in BDT (per decimal).



**District: Chittagong, Upazila: Sitakund, Union: Vaterkhil, Village: West Vaterkhil (Gopta), Land- 6.3 Acres (630 Decimal), Price (Current): BDT 50,000 Per Decimal**



**District: Chittagong, Upazila: Sitakund, Union: Vaterkhil (Loharpol), Land-6 Acres (600 Decimal), Price (Current): BDT 45,000 Per Decimal**



**District: Chittagong, Upazila: Rangunia, Union: Padua, West side of Kalinbi Rani road, Land-2 Acres (200 Decimal), Price (Current): BDT 45,000 Per Decimal**



**District: Chittagong, Upazila: Rangunia, Union: Kodala, adjacent to Hazi Syed Ali road of West kodala, Land-1 Acre (100 Decimal), Price (Current): BDT 40,000 Per Decimal**



**District: Chittagong, Upazila: Mirsarai, Union: Bartakia, West side of road, Land-4 Acres (400 Decimal), Price (Current): BDT 30,000 Per Decimal**



**District: Chittagong, Upazila: Banskhali, Union: Shilkup, Village: East Shilkup, East side of Eco-park Road, Land- 5 Acre (500 Decimal), Price (Current): BDT 25,000 Per Decimal**



**District: Chittagong, Upazila: Banskhali, Union: Kalipur, Village: West Palogram, North side of Baharchara Road, Land- 3 Acre (300 Decimal), Price (Current): BDT 25,000 Per Decimal**



**District: Chittagong, Upazila: Banskhali, Union: Kalipur, Village: West Gunagori, North side of Master pool Road, Land- 2.5 Acre (250 Decimal), Price (Current): BDT 30,000 Per Decimal**

**Tentative relocating cost of one family displaced or vulnerable to climate-displacement in Mirsarai, Sitakund, Rangunia and Banskhali Upazila of Chittagong, Bangladesh** (based on the present market rate)

**Location: Mirsarai, Chittagong.**

**Who will be accommodated: Displaced family of Mirsarai and Sandip Island residing in temporary shelter or vulnerable people to be displaced with in short time**

Considering five (5\*) decimal lands (two decimal for home and three decimal for homestead)

Particulars	Unit	Unit cost	Total in BDT	Total in USD
Capacity Building support (Lump sum)	1	10,000	10,000	130
Land purchased five decimal (suitable for housing)	5	30,000	150,000	1,948
Land Development	1	50,000	50,000	649
Construction of House** (two bed rooms, one kitchen, one latrine with water reserver)	1	200,000	200,000	2,597
Other properties for Livelihood (Lump sum)	1	20,000	20,000	260
<b>Grand Total Cost of One family</b>			<b>430,000</b>	<b>5,584</b>

**Location: Sitakund, Chittagong.**

**Who will be accommodated: Displaced family of Sitakund and Sandip Island residing in temporary shelter or vulnerable people to be displaced with in short time**

Considering five (5\*) decimal lands (two decimal for home and three decimal for homestead)

Particulars	Unit	Unit cost	Total in BDT	Total in USD
Capacity Building support (Lump sum)	1	10,000	10,000	130
Land purchased five decimal (suitable for housing)	5	45,000	225,000	2,922
Land Development	1	50,000	50,000	649
Construction of House** (two bed rooms, one kitchen, one latrine with water reserver)	1	200,000	200,000	2,597
Other properties for Livelihood (Lump sum)	1	20,000	20,000	260
<b>Grand Total Cost of One family</b>			<b>505,000</b>	<b>6,558</b>

**Location: Rangunia, Chittagong.**

**Who will be accommodated: Displaced family of Rangunia and Sandip Island residing in temporary shelter or vulnerable people to be displaced with in short time**

Considering five (5\*) decimal lands (two decimal for home and three decimal for homestead)

Particulars	Unit	Unit cost	Total in BDT	Total in USD
Capacity Building support (Lump sum)	1	10,000	10,000	130
Land purchased five decimal (suitable for housing)	5	40,000	200,000	2,597
Land Development	1	50,000	50,000	649
Construction of House** (two bed rooms, one kitchen, one latrine with water reserver)	1	200,000	200,000	2,597
Other properties for Livelihood (Lump sum)	1	20,000	20,000	260
<b>Grand Total Cost of One family</b>			<b>480,000</b>	<b>6,234</b>

**Location: Banskali, Chittagong.**

**Who will be accommodated: Displaced family of Banskhali and Kutubdia Island residing in temporary shelter or vulnerable people to be displaced with in short time**

Considering five (5\*) decimal lands (two decimal for home and three decimal for homestead)

Particulars	Unit	Unit cost	Total in BDT	Total in USD
Capacity Building support (Lump sum)	1	10,000	10,000	130
Land purchased five decimal (suitable for housing)	5	25,000	125,000	1,623
Land Development	1	50,000	50,000	649
Construction of House** (two bed rooms, one kitchen, one latrine with water reserver)	1	200,000	200,000	2,597
Other properties for Livelihood (Lump sum)	1	20,000	20,000	260
<b>Grand Total Cost of One family</b>			<b>405,000</b>	<b>5,260</b>

**OPTION-2: If Land is found as privately donated or provided by Government**

**Location: Anywhere**

**Who will be accommodated: Displaced family residing in temporary shelter or vulnerable people to be displaced with in short time**

Considering five (5\*) decimal lands (two decimal for home and three decimal for homestead)

Particulars	Unit	Unit cost	Total in BDT	Total in USD
Capacity Building support (Lump sum)	1	10,000	10,000	130
Land purchased five decimal (suitable for housing)	5	-	-	-
Land Development	1	50,000	50,000	649
Construction of House** (two bed rooms, one kitchen, one latrine with water reserver)	1	200,000	200,000	2,597
Other properties for Livelihood (Lump sum)	1	20,000	20,000	260
<b>Grand Total Cost of One family</b>			<b>280,000</b>	<b>3,636</b>

\* five (5) decimal proposed for one family though guchagram (CVRP) model is 200 decimal for 30 family (6.7 decimal per family as per Guchhagram project), if it is possible to rehabilitate more than 10 family at a time in one place than four (4) decimal for each family and rest of place will be used commonly by excavation of pond.

\*\* as per ADB model proposed in the report on Climate Resilient Shelter Home in South-Western Coastal Areas of Bangladesh

## **2. Enhancing the work of legal groups on the rights of climate displaced persons**

### **2.1 Orientation and Formation of Lawyer's Forum**

To promote the lawyer's forum on climate displacement with a aim to undertake lobbying on effective legislative and policy change for climate displaced persons, YPSA facilitated the forum as well as participated with them in the formal meeting in June, July and August 2014. First meeting focused mostly of orientation on climate displacement, national relevant laws and policies, international legal standard including Peninsula Principles. Second meeting was on the name selection, convening committee formation and drafting a constitution for the forum. Third meeting was mainly on finalizing convening

committee and forum title and progress of constitution development. The meeting selected the name of lawyer's forum as 'Lawyer's Initiative for Displacement Solutions (LIDS)'. In the mean time YPSA regularly shared different advocacy materials with them and provide assistance to drafting documents including members enrollment form. Finally a seven members convening committee is formed with the following persons.



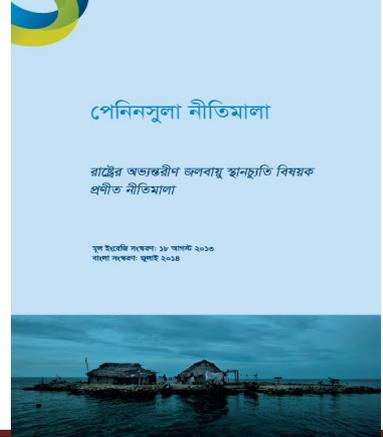
1. Advocate Shawkat Awal Chowdhury : Convener
2. Advocate Md. Mozammel Ali Chowdhury Jamshed : Member Secretary
3. Advocate Md. Salim Uddin ( Shahin) : Member
4. Advocate Moumita Das Gupta : Member
5. Advocate Hasan Murad : Member
6. Advocate Moin Abdullah Al Ahad Chowdhury : Member
7. Advocate Mohammad Eliyas : Member

The committee also developed draft constitution identifying the role of committee and probable actions and priorities as well as day to day operational modalities of LIDS. LIDS seeks support from YPSA for organizing need based awareness activities, orientation of lawyers, advocacy with relevant stakeholders aiming to resolve the problem, particularly legal, of climate displaced persons. This forum should be facilitated time to time for well taking off with the new issue of climate displacement.



**2.2 Translation and Publication of “Peninsula Principles on Climate Displacement within States”**

The first global policy for climate displaced persons “Peninsula Principles on Climate Displacement within States” published August 18, 2013. New global rules outlining the rights of people and communities, who lost their homes, land and livelihoods due to the effects of climate change have been finalized and approved before the publication. The Peninsula Principles were developed on the basis of current international law; several thousand interviews carried out over the past five years in heavily affected countries and were most recently influenced by comments received from the public at large who had access to the draft principles on the internet. YPSA played a key role



during the formation of Peninsula Principles on Climate Displacement. So, YPSA has taken the initiative for translating the Peninsula Principles in Bengali and published this during the month of July, 2014. YPSA translated it by a professional translator and then reviewed it by expert proof reader. This book has been distributing among the different relevant stakeholders.

### 3. Printing of the Climate Displacement in Bangladesh Mapping Report

DS and YPSA worked jointly to design the study, conduction, preparing report and review the mapping report of 'Climate Displacement in Bangladesh: Stakeholders, Laws and Policies - Mapping the Existing Institutional Framework' with the objective to identify and clarify the existing institutional framework as



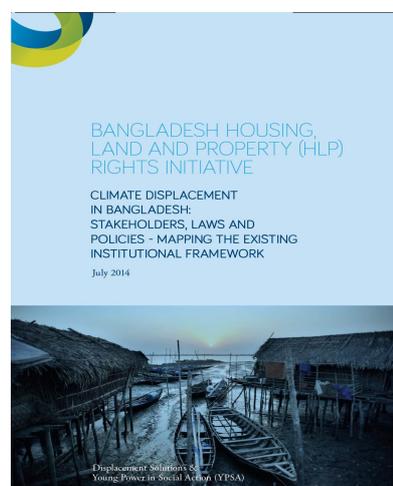
it relates to climate displacement in Bangladesh. This mapping study demonstrates that there are a large number of Government and Non-Government stakeholders at the national, regional and international levels, as well as a many laws and policies that are directly or indirectly relevant to climate displacement in Bangladesh. Displacement Solutions designed the report and YPSA printed the mapping study report in Bangladesh in August, 2014 keeping the design unchanged. This 182-page report comprehensively maps and details every law, policy and institution in Bangladesh that relates to

the challenge of climate displacement. The report concludes that although there are a large number of laws, policies, institutions and stakeholders that directly or indirectly relate to climate displacement, at present they do not combine to form a coherent, comprehensive or effective institutional framework for responding to or planning for climate displacement.

The report makes a number of key recommendations for how Bangladesh can immediately act to create laws and policies to protect the rights of climate displaced persons and to create an effective institutional framework to ensure clarity and accountability in the implementation of those laws and policies.

This mapping study identifies 168 institutional and organizational stakeholders and 78 resource persons at the national, regional and international levels, including: 36 Government Ministries, Departments, Institutes and Authorities; 20 International Donors and Funding Organizations; 14 National Civil Society Organizations and Networks; 45 National NGOs; 23 International NGOs and 30 Academic Institutes, Research Centers; and 78 National Experts. The mapping study also identifies and assesses 22 Laws, Policies, Strategies and Programmes of Action relevant to climate displacement in Bangladesh.

The Launching Program of Mapping Study report held in Dhaka on 1<sup>st</sup>



September, 2014 where Dr. Hasan Mahmud Chowdhury, MP and chairman of Parliamentary standing Committee for Ministry of Environment and Forest was present as a chief guest. Dr. Niaz Ahmed Khan, Chairman, Department of Development Study, Dhaka University was present as special guest among others.

## **4. Advocacy and Awareness-Raising on Solutions to Climate Displacement in Bangladesh**

### **4.1 Round Table Discussion and Mapping Study report Launching**

'A comprehensive Climate Change Policy is now demand of time, which can cover all climate changes issues including the rights of climate displaced peoples of Bangladesh. I, myself, will take necessary initiative to fulfill this requirement as a chairman of Parliamentary standing Committee for Ministry of Environment and Forest'. Dr. Hasan Mahmud, MP said in his speech in the Round Table Discussion on Climate Displacement issue and Launching of Mapping Study report as a chief guest. The meeting was organized by Young Power in Social Action (YPSA) at CIRDAP auditorium, Dhaka on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014. He also said, state should take responsibility for ensuring basic human needs like food, cloth and housing for the climate displaced peoples. More initiative for research is needed to know the real no. of climate displaced persons as well as monitoring the climate displaced peoples in regular basis, he added.



Mohammad Shahjahan, Team Leader of Bangladesh Housing, Land and Property Rights (HLP) Initiative presented key note paper in the round table discussion. Dr. Niaz Ahmed Khan, Chairman, Department of Development Studies, Dhaka University was present as special guest while Md. Rafiqul Alam, Chief Executive of Dwip Unnayan Sangstha presided over the program. Md. Shamsuddoha, Chief Executive of Centre for Participatory Research and Development (CPRD) moderated the program and Md. Arifur Rahman, Chief Executive of YPSA gave the welcome speech.

After the key note presentation, Sujit Chowdhury, Senior Advisor of Climate Change for German Embassy; AKM Sirajul Islam, Paribesh Bachao Andolon; Mihir Kanti Biswas, Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon; Alisan Subrata Baroi, Director of Sushanar Jonno Pracharabhijan; Mizanur Rahman Bijoy, Network on Climate Change of Bangladesh; Aminul Rasul Babul, Executive Director of Unnayan Dhara Trust; Rafiqul Islam Montu, Special Correspondence, BanglaNews24; Gaohar Nayeem, Convenor, Disaster Forum of Bangladesh discussed among other on the key note presentation and gave valuable suggestions for ensuring the rights climate displaced persons.

Speakers said that Bangladesh requires not only comprehensive policies to ensure the rights of climate

displaced persons, but also requires a supporting long term and short term action plan to implement the policies. Distribution of *Khas* land should be the best options but there are some barriers to distribute *khas* land to displaced people, those are come for other district/upazila. And there are also problem in the identifying process of real landless or displaced people. Speakers express solidarity with the five key actions and emphasized that there are no sufficient researches on climate displacement issue. To get good result there should have integration between politician and activism in the climate change field.



The meeting also launched the Mapping Study Report "Climate Displacement in Bangladesh: Stakeholders, Laws and Policies-Mapping the existing institutional framework". This 182-page report comprehensively maps and details every law, policy and institution in Bangladesh that relates to the challenge of climate displacement. The round table discussion meeting and mapping report Launching program was covered by more than 20 national print, electronic and online media with special features in Upakul Bangladesh (Coastal Bangladesh).

#### **4.2 Media campaign and writing features by journalist through spot visit**

YPSA initiated large scale media campaign with print, electronic and online media journalist for raising awareness on climate displacement issues in Bangladesh. Before organizing and sending the journalist group to different hot spot, YPSA briefed the objective of this visit and sought support from media to act proactively to highlight the displaced people rights based on their sufferings.

##### **4.2.1 Media Team Visit in Banskali Coastal Area**

YPSA organized visit for print and electronic media journalists in Banskali Upazila of Chittagong which is one of the vulnerable area of displacement due to climate change. 'Coastal peoples facing untold sufferings due to the unabated river erosions and the deluges by the sea that are steadily erasing five unions of Banskali upazila from the country's map, said local representatives and administrators'. Journalists visited to Khankhanabad Union to find out the real picture of displaced people's suffering. They found that thousands of people living just on the edge of the Bay of Bengal remain unprotected as there is no embankment or protection wall for nearly three decades.



Hundreds of dwelling houses and cyclone shelters cum primary schools have already been devoured by the tidal surge. The sea deluges submerge vast crop fields in those areas under three to five feet deep



Journalists also visited *Ali Akbar Dhail* Union, which has been most vulnerable since 1991 cyclone. They observed the coastal erosion in this area and see the suffering of remaining people. Local people said that most of the inhabitants of this union has been living in Chakraia Upazila, Cox's Bazaar Sadar Upazila, Lama and Pekua Upazila etc after forcing to leave.

Later on Journalist team visited three displaced families in Boroitali of Chakaria upazila, who were displaced from Lemshikhali of Kutubdia in 1991. They said, like us, many people came from Kutubdia to different places of this district being displaced by the erosion”.

After visiting the Kutubdia island, the report published in popular English daily news paper Daily Sun, online news site bdnews24.com The Daily Inqilab and Editorial in The Daily Suprabat Bangladesh as well as news in few online media.

### 4.2.3 Published Articles/ Feature relevant to climate displacement

In this extension period, YPSA took initiative to support the media personals for writing and publishing article/ feature on climate change induced displacement issue and also HLP team wrote articles for different media.

Daily Purbadesh published the article “Climate Displaced Peoples of Bangladesh will be five croe in 2050”! Mohammad Shahjahan and Prabal Barua, HLP team members, wrote this article. In this article, the authors highlighted the activities of YPSA about the rights of climate displaced persons like five key action points, Peninsula Principles on Climate Displacement and some research information on climate displacement issue of Bangladesh.

Daily Purbakan published an article of Md. Didarul Alam, writer and columnist, with

গুহাবাদেবের নেই কোন আশ্রয়, প্রতিদিন নতুন নতুন এলাকা ভাঙনের ভাবিকায় উপকূল জুড়ে ভাঙন, স্থায়ী বেড়িবাঁধ নির্মাণের আশ্বাস এলেও কার্যকরীতা নেই

the title of “Erosion of Karnaphuli river and Displaced Peoples” having support of YPSA-HLP. The focus of this article was increasing erosion of Karnaphuli river as an effect of climate change and forcing people to be displaced. The people, who were living near this river losing their housing, land and property, need urgent rights based solutions. YPSA-HLP team also supported Mr. Kallyan Barua, Banskhali Representative of Daily Azadi to write a feature on coastal erosion of Banskhali and havoc of displaced peoples. Mr. Kallyan wrote a feature and published this in The Daily Azadi with the title of “No

Shelter for Displaced Peoples, Coastal Erosion Increasing but no measures of authority in Banskhal Upazila”.

#### 4.2.4 Hosting of Md. Rafiqul Islam, Special Correspondence, BanglaNews24

YPSA hosted Mr. Md. Rafiqul Islam, Special Correspondence of banglanews24.com and Editor of Upakul Bangladesh (Coastal Bangladesh) to visit and write the continuous feature. He visited Kutubdia island, Maheskhal island, Chakaria and Cox's Bazar sadar of Cox's Bazar district; Sandwip island along with Patenga & Banskhal of Chittagong district and Bhola and Khulna coastal area for observing the scenario of coastal peoples and also making report on the people facing displacement and their rights issue. He reported on coastal erosion and people's sufferings of Cox's Bazar, Chittagong and Bhola district recommending rights based solutions and actions. He told us that he will continue his endeavor to follow up the people of coastal area in periodic basis and will be documented their life.

#### জলবায়ু স্থানচ্যুত মানুষ বেড়েছে ভোলায়

banglanews24.com রফিকুল ইসলাম, স্পেশাল করেসপন্ডেন্ট 21 Sep' 14.

বাণিয়াকাশি, ধনিয়া, ভোলা: জলবায়ু পরিবর্তনের প্রভাবে পুঁচি জোয়ার আর নদীভাঙনে মানুষ ছুটছে এক স্থান থেকে অন্য স্থানে। বাড়িঘর হারানোর সঙ্গে সঙ্গে তারা হারিয়ে ফেলছে জীবিকা নির্বাহের পেশাটিও। মাথার ঘরের আসবাবপত্র, হাতে শিশু সন্তানটিকে ধরে নিঃশব্দ মানুষদের ঠিকানা হচ্ছে শহরে। বাপ-দাদার ভিটে, ফসলি জমি, বহু পুরনো বাগান, এমনকি প্রিয় স্বজনদের সঙ্গে যুগ যুগের বঁধন ছিন্ন করে মানুষগুলো চির বিদায় নিচ্ছেন নিজ এলাকা থেকে।



সরেজমিনে পাওয়া তথ্যসূত্র বলছে, জলবায়ু পরিবর্তনের ফলে গত এক বছরে দ্বীপ জেলা ভোলায় মেঘনার ভাঙন ও জোয়ারের চাপ বেড়েছে। এরফলে গত এক বছরে বেড়েছে স্থানচ্যুত মানুষের সংখ্যাও। ভোলা সদরের দ্বীপ রামদাসপুর, কাছিয়া, ধনিয়া, দৌলতখানের ভবানীপুর, মনুপুরার আদ্রিপাড়া, দক্ষিণ সাবুটিয়াসহ বিভিন্ন এলাকা থেকে বহু মানুষ অন্যত্র চলে গেছে। জলবায়ু পরিবর্তনের প্রভাবে ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত মানুষদের অধিকার ব্যাখ্যাথভাবে বাস্তবায়িত হচ্ছে না। এসব ভূমিহীন মানুষদের খাসজমি পাওয়ার অধিকার রয়েছে। পুনর্বাসন সহায়তা পাওয়ার অধিকার রয়েছে। বড় দুর্বোধ্য হলে সামান্য ঋণ সহায়তা ছাড়া তাদের জাল্যে কিছুই জোটাবে না। ফলে তারা যুগের পর যুগ নিঃস্বপ্নের শিকার হয়।

#### 4.2.5 Special Supplementary issue published about Round Table Discussion of YPSA

Online news paper Coastal Bangladesh (Upakul Bangladesh) published special issue on " Climate Displacement and Rights of Climate Displaced Persons". The issue was based on Round Table Discussion and Launching Program of Mapping Study at Dhaka organized by YPSA. The full page special issue highlighted the speech of the each participants with the picture of round table. The special issue also incorporated mapping study launching program and news on Bengali version of Peninsula Principles on Climate Displacement within States.

#### 4.3 Translation Printing of "rights of climate displaced persons pocket book"

During this extension project period there was a plan to translate into Bengali of "rights of climate displaced persons pocket book" with editing by professional person and printing. DS supposed to provide the English version of this Pocket Book to YPSA but due to short time period of project it was not possible to have this document within the project time. In the mean time it is decided through email communication with DS that whenever English version will be finalized and share with us, HLP team will take necessary step to translate and printing this Pocket Book within the budget of this period. For the reporting formalities we have already provisioned (cost shown) the budget of this pocket book in the finance report i.e. even after submission of finance report we still able to print this document within this budget limit. So we are eagerly waiting for final version of document of "rights of climate displaced persons pocket book" after that we will undertake professional and accurate translation into Bengali of the "Rights of Climate Displaced Persons" Pocket Book as well as printing and distribution.

#### 4.4 Hosting of Ezekiel Simperingham, DS representative

Mr. Ezekiel Simperingham, Legal Consultant of Displacement Solutions and Coordinator of Bangladesh HLP initiative visited Bangladesh from May 11 to May 16, 2014 for meeting with climate change specialist of Donor Agency and International Organizations to share experience of HLP initiative and plans on this important and challenging issue for Bangladesh as well as discussion on potential collaboration or support that could provide to the work of the Bangladesh HLP Initiative.



Mr. Ezekiel had formal meeting with Daniel Klasander, Programme Manager / Second Secretary, Urban Environment / Climate Change program of Embassy of Sweden; Mr Conor Molloy, Assistant Country Director, Oxfam GB; Nicolas Syed, Country Programme Officer, International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD); Carel de Groot, First Secretary/Expert of Climate Change, Embassy of the Kingdom of The Netherlands; Ms Marion Sybillin, Project Coordinator, French Development Agency (AFD); Manfred FERNHOLZ, Food Security, (EEAS-DHAKA), Delegation of the European Union to Bangladesh; Dr. Purnima Doris Chattopadhyay-Dutt, Principal Advisor, Coastal Livelihoods Adaptation Project (CLAP) of GIZ; Mr. KAM Morshed, Assistant Country Director, UNDP; Dr. Kaji Kholiquzzaman, Chairman, Bangladesh Palli Karma Sahayak Foundation and Mr. Sujit Chowdhury, Advisor-Climate Change.

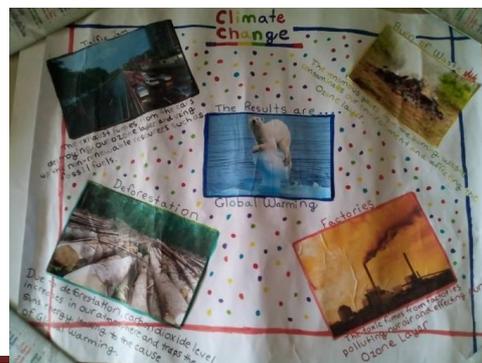


Mr. Zeke had also informal meeting with Ms Stina Ljungdell, United Nations High Commissions for Refugees (UNHCR); and few more donor representative in Bangladesh participated in the dinner party at British High commission office. All the meeting were held in very cordial atmosphere with the listening carefully each other to find out scope in the future for the betterment of climate displaced persons. Participant very much interested to the issue and hope for possible cooperation in the future.

### 5. Additional Activities under the extension of HLP 2014

#### 5.1 Coastal Kids Activities

YPSA continued support to Coastal Kids Activities of William Carey Academy in different times. During the extension period, YPSA participated as judge of Coastal Kids Photo Competition on climate change issue held among the student of class V of WCA. YPSA handover the prize to the best three students of that competition. Students utilized their own knowledge to reflect the impact and reasons of climate change in Bangladesh during photo competition.





YPSA also participated in the Skype conversation held between the WCA and Sorrento Primary Australian School students which was 3<sup>rd</sup> conversation between the two schools under the Coastal Kids Activities.

YPSA distributed Coastal Kids T-Shirt for students of WCA with the support of Displacement Solutions. Coastal Kids T-Shirt was made in Bangladesh and it also distributed students of Australian selected school. During the distribution of T-shirt Penelope Howder, Interim Director of William Carey Academy expressed her gratitude to YPSA and DS for such kind of initiative.



### 5.2 Observe the World Environment Day 2014

YPSA jointly organized World Environment Day 2014 in Chittagong with the Department of Environment, Chittagong and other government, non government organizations. The main theme of World Environment Day 2014 was " Raise Your Voice, Not to Sea Level". As part of observance of the day, Mohammad Jafar Alam, Director of DoE Chittagong, led a rally from the city's outer stadium at 8.30 am, paraded through the main streets in Chittagong and finally ended in Muslim Hall. A large number of people from all walks of life



including students, activists of NGOs, environmentalists and representatives of several professional bodies participated in the rally. An essay and art competition held with participation of children. A discussion meeting was held at the Muslim Hall Institute presided over by Mohammad Jafar Alam, director, DoE, while Mohammad Abdullah, Divisional Commissioner of Chittagong attended the meeting as the chief guest and Mezbah Uddin, Deputy Commissioner of Chittagong as the special guest. Later, the chief guest distributed prizes among the winners of competition and distributed several types

of fruits and medicinal saplings among the students and representatives of several organizations.

### 5.3 Human Chain program for rights of climate displaced peoples

#### 5.3.1 Human Chain for permanent embankment to protect coastal areas at Cox's Bazar

YPSA participated human chain program at DC office premises of Cox's Bazar with other 10 local NGOs and civil society representatives for strong demand for Permanent embankment to protect coastal areas from tidal surge and ensuring rehabilitation for climate displaced peoples on 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2014. In the human chain program speakers said that due to climate change induced natural disasters tidal levels increasing and absence of strong embankment Maheskhali, kutubdia, Chakaria Teknaf and Cox's Bazar Sadar Upazila are flooded regularly and suffering of inhabitants are untold. Displaced peoples are increasing from the islands because of devastating coastal erosions there. They also said that from the different scientific research we found that within last 50 years, nearly half of the territory lost from Kutubdia island of Cox's Bazar district and Bhola district. Thousands of peoples become homeless and landless but they do not have the protection of the right to live. Different local NGOs like Coast Trust, Mukhti, Gono Sastha, Bangla-German Association, PHALS Bangladesh, SRPV, RIC, Bastab and Paribesh Bachao Andolon took part in the human chain program.



২০ জুলাই ২০১৪ রবিবার সাতক্ষীরার বিনেরপোতা বসুন্ধরা ওজ্জ্বলতার ধারা নামের বাস্তুচ্যুত ন্যায়িক উদ্দেশ্যের আয়োজনে ও 'বঙ্গবন্ধু উর্জ্জ্বলতার ধারা' বাস্তুচ্যুত জলবায়ু উদ্ধারের জন্য টেকসই পুনর্বাসন, কৃষি ও অকৃষি খাসজমি বন্দোবস্ত জীবিকার অধিকার প্রতিষ্ঠা ও সরকারি নীতিমালা সংশোধনের দাবিতে' মানববন্ধন কর্মসূচি পালন করে সিডর ও আইলায় ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত নারী-পুরুষ ও শিশুরা।

#### 5.3.2 Support for organized Human Chain for rights of climate displaced peoples at Satkhira

YPSA provided support to organize human chain and meeting on "Review the Govt. Policy, ensuring rights of livelihood, distribution of agriculture and non-agriculture khas land and sustainable rehabilitation for climate displaced peoples" at Satkhira Binerpota Basundhara Guchoqram on 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2014 that organized by local NGO SoDesh and Displaced Peoples Initiative. Hundreds of displaced women, child and men were participated, who were affected by cyclone Aila and Sidar. Displaced peoples, participated in the program, said that they want to return their earlier homes with the support of Govt. and Non-Govt. initiative. They also demanded for reviewing the Govt. policy for climate displaced peoples and also for ensuring sustainable rehabilitation with livelihood support and khas land distribution as priority basis.



### 5.3.3. Human Chain Program for demanding reconstruction of coastal embankment and secured life for climate displaced peoples at Sitakund

YPSA –HLP team provided support to Youth Leaders Forum of YPSA-Leadership Development Program to organize human chain on 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2014 demanding for reconstruction of Banshbaria coastal dam of Sitakunda upazila and ensure sustainable rehabilitation for displaced peoples. In the human chain program, representatives from 20 local organizations and members of Youth Leaders Forum joined their hands to form a human chain along the Dhaka-Chittagong highway near Banshbaria Union Parishad, Sitakund. Chairman of Banshbaria Union Parishad plays key role to success this event with the assistance of youth and community leaders along with local community. Hundreds of people stood in line from 9.00 am to 11.00 am to make a human chain. More than 30 LDP leaders were present displaying various banners and play cards to raise voice for reconstruction of Banshbaria Dam prior to rainy season to protect lives, settlement and agriculture. There are about 1.5 km long dyke located at Banshbaria Union. Most of the parts of this dyke are unprotected and being destroyed. Due to cyclone and tidal surge in monsoon season, most of these areas are flooded and washout by saline water.



## Challenges

### **Limited time period of project, considering the activities planned**

The extension project period was for six month (March-August'14) keeping the sequence with previous period as per NGOB system but originally the activities and ToR was finalized at the end of May'14 and after that we submitted proposal for NGOB approval. Extension period activities were planned considering six months period but in reality we only had three months to complete all activities, which was the main challenge of this period. We had to manage almost all activities of project having additional staff support from YPSA and good team work.

## Lessons Learnt

- Khas land distribution is time consuming, which need usually one and half year though the process mentioned in the different documents is six to eight months
- Giving legal title to landless/displaced people over the land under CDSP is more easier than the agricultural *khas* land distribution though land holders under CDSP are to reside under the threat of natural hazards as it is located in the char area adjacent to river and sea. In CDSP there is 100% possibility to have the land title by landless people as there is involvement of different stakeholders like local & International NGOs including donor with this process but it is not happened in normal agriculture *khas* land distribution as it is controlled by local political leader of rolling party.

- Involving media in the advocacy campaign can be very effective for sensitizing policy makers as well as mass people
- Evidence based or message focused documents like booklet, sticker, poster, report etc. can impress people easily.

## **Conclusion**

This report mainly focused on the activities, as per TOR, of land acquisition process for climate displaced persons including Guidance Note Development for Access of *Khas* Land to Climate Displaced Persons, Suitable land identification for rehabilitation of displaced persons; Enhancing the work of legal groups on the rights of climate displaced persons, printing of Bengali version report “Peninsula Principals on Climate Displacement Within States”; provision of advocacy, lobbying and coalition development for ensuring rights of climate displaced people of Bangladesh; Printing and Launching of Mapping Study on Climate Displacement Report; Media Campaign for raise awareness on Climate Displacement issues.

Over this 6 months extension period, YPSA has been successful in organizing round table discussion on rights of climate displaced peoples and launching of Mapping Study report in Dhaka. more than 20 electronic, print and online media published the report. Besides, Special supplementary issue on round table discussion of YPSA published in Coastal Bangladesh (Upakul Bangladesh), a popular online media. YPSA translated publication and distribution of first global policy for rights of climate displaced persons “Peninsula Principals in Climate Displacement within States”.

YPSA discussed with number of Govt. land officials about the *khas* land distribution policy and Char Development and Settlement Program of Bangladesh. YPSA developed the draft Guidance Note “Access to *Khas* land for Climate displaced persons In Bangladesh” where *khas* land/ Govt. land processing steps have been briefly described. To find the plot of land suitable for purchase to provide new lands and new homes to climate displaced persons on those plots of land, YPSA visited Mirsarai, Sitakund, Rangunia and Banskali upazila of Chittagong district as sample basis and identified some land plots, which are suitable for purchase.

A group of lawyers of Chittagong Bar Association are motivated for formation a forum and work for climate displacement issue. The name of Lawyer’s Forum decided by lawyers is “Lawyer’s Initiative on Displacement Solutions (LIDS)”. A convener committee also formed for the operational activities of LIDS.

YPSA, with the support of DS, published the first comprehensive mapping study ‘Climate Displacement in Bangladesh: Stakeholders, Laws and Policies - Mapping the Existing Institutional Framework’. The mapping study report formerly launched by Dr. Hasan Mahmud Chowdhury, Chairmen, Parliamentary Committee on Ministry of Environment and Forest at Round table Discussion in Dhaka. This 182-page report comprehensively maps and details every law, policy and institution in Bangladesh that relates to the challenge of climate displacement.

YPSA successfully organized journalists under the media campaign program for awareness build up and publish the news, articles, features and broadcasted the report in print, electronic and online media

relevant to climate displacement issues and rights of climate displaced persons. There are number of articles/ features/reports published in local and national newspapers and online media about the coastal erosion, displaced peoples havoc and their basic requirement of Housing, Land and Property rights issues. Besides, number of Electronic Medias also broadcasted report about the suffering of climate displaced peoples.

YPSA only behind the target of translating "rights of climate displaced persons pocket book" into Bengali. DS supposed to provide the English version of this Pocket Book to YPSA but due to short time period of project it was not possible to have this document within the project time. For the reporting formalities we have already provisioned (cost shown) the budget of this pocket book in the finance report i.e. even after submission of finance report we still able to print this document within this budget limit.

YPSA continued support Coastal Kids Activities of William Carey Academy in different times. During the extension period, YPSA participated as judge of Coastal Kids Photo Competition on climate change issue held among the student of class V of WCA. YPSA also participated in the Skype conversation between WCA and Sorrento Primary School. Besides, YPSA distributed Coastal Kids T-Shirt to students of different classes of William Carey Academy with the support of Displacement Solutions.

YPSA has been successfully completed the 6 months extension period of planned activities of HLP-2014 ( 1 March-2014 to 31 August, 2014) project with the appropriate guidance and support from the DS, Government counterpart, like-minded NGOs, civil society and YPSA management. It is remarkable that all staff of YPSA HLP have played the proactive role to keep it on tract. This process will be continued and together with we will be able to achieve our objective.

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