

Draft, 26th July 2010, for official and confidential circulation only.

Subject: Enhancing coordinated and integrated efforts for accountable implementation of BCCSAP and promotion of democratic ownership: phase one

Project period: August 2010 to January 2012, total eighteen months.

Total money sought for 18 months: [BDT 2575.00 thousands, \(first eight months cost 1245.90\)](#)

Submitted to: Campaign for Sustainable Rural Livelihood / Oxfam Great Britain

Submitted for: Equity and Justice Working Group Bangladesh (EquityBD),
www.equitybd.org

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Summary

This is an 18 months project proposal on “Enhancing coordinated and integrated efforts for accountable implementation of Bangladesh Climate Change Strategic Action Plan (BCCSAP) and promotion of democratic ownership” (in fact which is contrast to the term “government ownership”). As Bangladesh in the front line of climate change impact, as there are world wide sympathy to assist Bangladesh for adaptation, Bangladesh has prepared this BCCSAP, which demand a well integrated and coordinated implementation. Aid money is coming and government is also allocating resources in this regard, but there is a question whether the money will be well managed in coordinated, integrated and in accountable manner. So there should be a political pressure in this regard. The BCCSAP has been prepared with little participation from CSOs and politicians, so here is a need to develop a critical mass in this regard. BCCSAP and the critical options should also be reflected in annual, five and perspective planning too. We feel may be in long term there should also be pro active CSO for climate finance monitoring and also for developing campaign on institutional reform.

Taking this in view and taking a vision of five years, this first phase eighteen months project has been designed especially to promote critical mass and political pressure on integrated and coordinated implementation of BCCSAP, specifically to identify issues of coordination and political pressure in five priority thematic issues. There will be constant surveillance on donors especially on International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and activism for sovereign and accountable use of climate fund with constant campaign for its democratic ownership. As milestone of the project, at least there will be one primer on climate change impact, one booklet on summary of BCCSAP, one paper on outcome of divisional workshops, five papers on five priority themes of BCCSAP. There will be at least six divisional workshops on BCCSAP, four separate consultations on the outcome of divisional workshops with parliamentarians, journalists, donors and CSO leaders, and five consultations on five priority themes. In honoring the indication from prospective donors / partner i.e., CSRL / OGB (Campaign for Sustainable Rural Livelihood/Oxfam Great Britain) we did a conservative estimate for first eighteen months period (August 2010 to January 2011) the project requires Bangladeshi Taka (BDT) 2575.50, where first eight months (August 2010 to March 2011) is BDT 1218.90.

1. EquityBD Origin and Governance

Equity and Justice Working Group Bangladesh (EquityBD) has been established in August 2007 by a group of activists who have long experiences of policy campaigning in national and international level. It has set the vision for the world with equity and justice where human rights and democracy is the culture. In respect of mission it is to work for transforming policy and practice level through campaign and mobilization in local, national and international level. It has a governance policy process of advisory and convener committee and also undergoing for membership recruitment for broader constituency building with a flexible network structure from district to national level aiming to build a credible and sustainable civil society in the country. Apart from these, equitybd facilitated establishment of a district level campaigning network that implements week-long campaign programs in every year in line with the spirit and theme of ‘international rural women day’. Recently EquityBD, in a meeting convening committee has renamed as Moderator Council, the Convener has been redesigned as “Moderator”, there are also redesigned of “Coordinator” who will be the chief of secretariat. The committee has also decided not to go for separate registration that it should be housed in (Coastal Association for Social Transformation Trust) COAST. COAST and non government organization (NGO) working in coastal areas of Bangladesh.

COAST Executive Director, as the Convener of EquityBD, is reportable to the Moderator Council and also to Board of Trustee of COAST for equitybd activities. COAST maintains a level of governance standard in respect finance, human resource, monitoring and professionalism, which is also equally applicable to EquityBD management too. It has registered under trustee act of the Ministry of Law and Parliamentary Affairs; NGO Affairs Bureau of the Government of Bangladesh’s and also got certification (Renewal date 12 June 2008 for next five years effective from 24 Feb.2008 no. 1242) from the Bangladesh Bank’s Micro Finance Regulation Authority (License no. 00956-04041-00068, issued on 29th November 2007, renewed yearly basis and it is updated). All information related to the organization is available in www.coastbd.org.

COAST has the partnership with PKSF, MJF, Action Aid, WFP, SF Norway¹ and Government of Bangladesh. Latest financial year of 2008-09 has been audited by SF Ahmed & Co; the company has international affiliation of Ernest and Young Global in Bangladesh. It has the direct beneficiary of 74,540 poor families in the coastal districts of Bhola, Coxsbazar, Greater Noakhali and Patuakhali. Since the establishment of equitybd, COAST has been assisting the alliance as it believes that poverty eradication also requires campaign and networking for policy changes especially in macro level. Except a fund from CSRL/OGB for campaign during CoP 15 at Copenhagen during December 2009, since 2007 COAST has funded the network and continuing till now. For EquityBD, we only does like to raise fund from like minded campaign INGOs.

¹ Palli Karma Sohayak Foundation (PKSF) is the apex whole sale lending autonomous body founded by Bangladesh Government provides revolving credit money and technical assistance in respect of micro finance operation. PKSF has the partnership with COAST since 1999. *Manosher Jonno Foundation* (MJF) an advocacy and funding organization funded by DFID and Norway Government, has the partnership in respect of local governance since 2003. Action Aid is funding for a action research on disaster education since 2009. World Food Program has been funding and vulnerable group development since 2009. Strome Foundation Norway is funding in respect of education and micro finance revolving credit fund since 2001. Government of Bangladesh is funding a project titled “Reaching Out Scholl Childreen (ROSC)” since 2006.

2. Long term planning

EquityBD has already prepared a five year / long term campaign planning. In respect of theme it is to work on (i) climate justice and financing, (ii) tax justice and capital flight, (iii) civil society discourse on budget and national development planning, (iv) debt monitoring and ecological debt, (v) food sovereignty (vi) civil society effectiveness and (vii) democratization in political party culture. In respect of campaign strategies the group does like to emphasize on (i) policy research prior to campaign planning, (ii) publication of easy communication materials for alternative knowledge generation, (iii) creating constituency base in devising different mode of engagement and communication, especially in optimum use of ICT (iv) linking local, national and international level discourses and alliance building and (v) emphasizing engagement with political party and media stakeholder for effective influencing.

3. Campaigns

Since establishment in August 2007, EquityBD has been engaged in different campaigns, major campaigns in this regards are (i) opposing PSI of IMF, (ii) review of PRSP and advocating for country's sovereign planning, (iii) debt cancellation in view to uphold people's rights on public services, (iv) opposing market solution, demanding full compensation and reparation in line with the sprit of climate justice, (v) opposing World Bank involvement in Multi Donor Trust Fund for climate change adaptation, (vi) pre and post budget position and mobilization in view of economic justice, (v) promoting food sovereignty and women rights especially rights of the rural women, (vi) promotion of civil society voice in SAARC process and engagement in people SAARC process. EquityBD organized seminar, rallies, human chain and press conference in conducting those campaigns. EquityBD activists have participated in major international events in this regard as a part of Jubilee South, SAAPE and LDC Watch especially in CoP 13 in Bali, CoP 15 in Copenhagen, UNFFD New York and Doha, G8 summit in Sapporo Japan, People SAARC Summit in Colombo and People SAARC Delhi process. All these reports and information are available in www.equitybd.org.

4. Campaign on climate justice

EquityBD noticed that there is hardly any campaign in the country that focuses the issues of climate justice. Taking this in view equitybd intended to campaign for climate justice and undertook the following objectives, (i) to develop a critical civil society to influence government policies in the light of 'equity and justice principle' of the climate change (ii) to feed with fact and figures to different international civil society alliances so that the claim for climate justice and compensation and reparation from the developed countries are strengthened, and (iii) to disseminate country's ground-level climate change impacts in international level. In course of time with realization and evolution equitybd has taken additional objectives i.e. (iv) to develop critical civil society / movement so that the country and the people will have sovereign and democratic ownership in the climate fund and its effective use. A brief chronological description on the campaign on climate justice is given below. There are several events we have cooperation and joint campaign with CSRL too, equitybd is also member of the campaign network also.

Time line	Course of action	Observed impacts
May to Dec 2007	Publication of six brief papers both in English and Bangla on climate change impact. Widely distributed those both in grassroots, national and international level.	A general awareness has been developed especially among policy makers, media and civil society leaders.

Nov to Dec 2007 Pre and Post CoP 13	National level conference, civil society and media mobilization to keep pressure on government for appropriate policy position in CoP-13. Participation in Bali with Jubilee South / Debt campaigners group and other CSO mobilization activities.	Consultant dependent government delegation and the role of consultants have been criticized. Alternative Bangladeshi civil society voice heard in Bali mobilization, several international media reported on this.
Jan 2008 to Nov 2009	Mobilization of national and international media on climate change impact issue especially on climate migrant issue. Signature collection from civil society organization across the world for the dignified rights and status of the climate change migrants	Different international media highlighted the climate migrant issue, especially BBC, Aljazeera and Rueters. Around 14 case stories published in national TV and print media. Around 200 organizations from Asia, Africa, Europe, America and Latin America endorse the call for the rights of the climate migrants. The call has been widely circulated during CoP 15 in Copenhagen.
Nov and Dec 2009	One photo exhibition in cooperation with one weekly and CSRL in Klimaforum 09 Copenhagen. One seminar / public forum on climate migrant rights along with SAAPE, LDC Watch and Jubilee South also in Klimaforum 09.	Awareness on climate change impacts in Bangladesh has been raised among the civil society in CoP 15. Critical awareness and demand for rights on climate migrants have been developed among civil society leaders in CoP 15.
April 2008 to May 2010	Continuous campaign (7 press conference, one post card campaign, two seminar / public forum, 10 street rallies, numerous lobby meetings, two letter sending to prime minister and member of parliaments) against the World Bank involvement in multi donor trust fund in Bangladesh, which was proposed by UK and the then government leaders. One UK Bangladesh joint campaign during February 2010 along with WDM and Jubilee Debt Campaign UK.	Government formed committee to revise BCCSAP (climate change strategy and action plan). The fund has been renamed as 'Bangladesh Climate Resilience Fund' and the WB authority on fund management called off although the role of the World Bank as 'the technical assistance provider still exists.
April May 2010	Campaign and seminar/ public forum on transparency, accountability and democratic ownership in country's own climate fund.	Almost all media highlighted our position, critical awareness developed on government law especially in favor of the concept of "democratic ownership and effective use" of the fund.

5. Rationales for this project proposal

- a. **BCCSAP is prepared mainly by govt. and donors, but little of public participation; there are little of initiatives on implementation especially of integration. Total and long term development planning has also to be integrated with climate adaptation actions.**

Prior to the 2nd UK –Bangladesh Climate Conference held in London in September 2008 Bangladesh prepared the Bangladesh Climate Change Strategic Action Plan (BCCSAP); it has come in media that in fact it has prepared by some donor consultants. EquityBD and other CSO organizations criticized the document for little of public participation and also for its physical infrastructure biasness. Later, when a political government came in, a review committee was formed to review and update the BCCSAP. But still the document lacks wider public mandate especially, lack voice from vulnerable area and victims. EquityBD feels that it should have wider discussion with political level, especially with the member of parliaments.

EquityBD and other groups criticized the national budget of 2010-11 FY as adaptation to climate change is not adequately integrated with other development programs. In fact now the entire climate funds are anchored in environment ministry. But the other ministries like agriculture, water resources, energy, fisheries and livestock, health etc. also should focus on the issue. It seems that most of the initiatives are ad-hoc basis. There are six thematic areas in BCCSAP which has implications in inter ministerial coordination and actions. EquityBD and other CSO group strongly feel that, there should have political pressure to integrate and main-stream climate adaptation in inter ministerial level.

Apart from this, traditionally the total budget process is top down, which hardly reflect voices from grass root, even from district level. There is no department and district based segregation of budget allocation, so it is also difficult for public monitoring especially from grass root. It should be noted that historically ADP (annual development planning) implementation rate never reached 80 %, lack of decentralized budget information and public participation in implementation is one of the reason.

EquityBD feels that issues of integration on key thematic issues should also be reflected in five year planning. Government has already declared that five years planning are in under preparation. If there is no such systematic CSO campaign for climate integration then there is every chance that the implementation of BCCSAP and country's long term planning will be erratic, disintegrated, ad-hoc basis or will be dominated by vested interest group.

- b. **Around 1.7 billions climate adaptation fund is in pipeline or 45 % of national budget are aid money, management and effective use of the money is in question in view of “democratic ownership”.**

In 2009-2010 financial year government allocated \$ 100 millions i.e. BDT 700 core for climate change adaptation and mitigation actions from its own budget. In 2010-2011 financial year government again allocated same amount. A trust named ‘Bangladesh Climate Trust Fund (BCTF)’ has been formed to manage the fund, the trust is overwhelmed by bureaucrats and sitting ministers. There are only two representations from the civil society. As it is in the grip of government bureaucrats, like other public organization it would hardly work. Moreover there was no representation from victims, local government or others representatives from the vulnerable areas, or hardly any representation in view of “democratic ownership”. The law has been formed in such a way that it will hardly consider the general mass or CSO voices. So far around BDT 250

crore has been disbursed to government agencies, but there is little of information which project and how this money is going to be utilized. Regarding project to NGOs, a very traditional, so called “tender” system, has been introduced which is a very top down approach and will result in corruption, there is no scope of public participation and innovation. Like past, there are already rumor and indication that the process will result in creation of “night by fly NGO and politically patron NGO”. Along with other CSOs, CSRL and EquityBD have raised voices in this regard.

In addition to the Climate Change Trust Fund, UK government has committed around 60 million pound sterling, EU around 10 million euro , Danish government committed \$ 2 million grants for climate change in Bangladesh. After a year long bargaining and pressure from CSOs, donor countries tone down on ownership and management of the fund. Now that fund has been formed under the title of “Bangladesh Climate Resilience Fund (BCRF)”, as it has stated Bangladesh government will own the fund while technical assistance will be taken from World Bank for the time being. EquityBD, CSRL and other CSO both in country and abroad opposed the World Bank involvement still.

EquityBD and other CSO group strongly feel that these two funds should be brought under a separate foundation with the representation in view of “democratic ownership”; in management it should have full autonomy although the ownership will be with the government. Bangladesh has an example in this regard, e.g. PKSF, in fact which is well running and fully operationally sustainable.

Bangladesh is the front line state of climate impact and there are wide spread sympathy for the country, other countries want to assist Bangladesh in this regard, but if Bangladesh will not be able to use the money effectively then it will have negative impact. So there should always observation and continuous CSO voices for sovereign, democratic and responsible use of the fund with wider participation in all level so that effective use of the fund has been ensured.

c. Institutional reform in government is necessary, but there are little of public demand

The nation has a unique immediate past experience on callousness of inefficiency of a vital government agency namely Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB), that, there was embankment damage due to cyclone AILA in country northwest part, but due to traditional tender procedure and other beaurucratic tangles BWDB has not been able to construct minimum necessary embankment in the cyclone effected area before the monsoon, even although there was strong instruction from Prime Minister. Now it is in the news that population of that area recently being suffering out of water inundation. This is one example that existing institutions / government agencies has not been able to response on emerging people’s need. Apart from this, there are wide spread allegation of corruption on BWDB too.

There are same sort of inefficiency and allegations on several other government agencies too. So, it is an indication that without reform in these institutions there will be little on effective use of aid or public money, in course of time these public agencies / institutions have to be changed.

EquityBD, does like to study on case and perceptions, and stakeholder consultation to develop appropriate reform proposal on those institutions. This is not only on BWDB; there are several other institutions which are vital to the climate adaptation, like agriculture, food and disaster management, coastal forestation etc. EquityBD believes through some field work in following systematic approach of methodology, alternative reform proposal on institutional reform could be developed, which should be submitted to national level policy makers. If needed there should be wide spread campaign.

6. Long term / 5 year project goal and objectives

What we believe that fulfilling of those rationales would require a five year time period; taking this in view we propose the following five year goal and objectives.

Goal: Political leader's especially civil society in micro and macro level are active for coordinated, integrated and accountable implementation of BCCSAP, monitoring climate financing and also demanding institutional reforms which are responsive to appropriate climate adaptation.

We believe that to fulfill above goal, following objectives should be considered;

- (i) to promote critical CSO opinions on BCCSAP especially with voices from vulnerable places,
- (ii) to promote interactive dialogue with policy makers and politicians with CSO leaders on representational basis aiming to develop an appropriate and live BCCSAP,
- (iii) to promote initiatives for climate finance monitoring both in management and implementation level, both in macro and micro level especially in strengthening demand side for accountability, transparency and participation,
- (iv) to promote climate financing monitoring and mobilization in such a way that there will be (a) no new public debt, (b) no conditionality imposed to the country especially from the international financial institutions (IFIs), (c) no budget deduction from the essential public services and (d) more money toward poor families especially to the climate vulnerable population and their areas, finally
- (v) to develop institutional reform proposals, especially for the priority government agencies through public participatory process, and initiate interactive dialogue with policy makers to initiate intended popular reforms,

7. Eighteen months goal, objectives, components, activities and expected impact

In view of above framework at first we do like to take an eighteen month project, where we do like to take following goal and objectives.

Objective: Enhancing coordinated and integrated efforts for accountable implementation of BCCSAP and promotion of democratic ownership: phase one

- (i) to promote awareness among key implementations, policy makers and develop critical CSO opinions on BCCSAP especially in divisional / vulnerable areas and national level,
- (ii) to identify critical issues for inter ministerial coordination and integration especially in five key sectors (e.g., food security, social protection and safety net, comprehensive disaster risk reduction, health, capacity building and strengthening institutions) in the implementation of BCCSAP,
- (iii) to continue the monitoring and CSO mobilization in macro / national level for pro poor climate finance management or democratic ownership within BCCTF (Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund) and BCRF (Bangladesh Climate Resilience Fund, ex Multi Donor Trust Fund) and IFI (International Financial Institutions) involvement.

Components, activities and expected impacts:

Sl	Components	Course of actions	Expected output/impacts
1	Critical awareness on Climate Impact and BCCSAP.	Climate primer including Bangla Summary of BCCSAP translation and CC glossaries, Printing, Manual for divisional workshop, Workshop with divisional CSRL leaders, Pilot divisional workshop, and six divisional workshops.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One bangle primer on climate impact and one bangle summary on BCCSAP is available. • At least 300 key stakeholders of BCCSAP implementation in divisional level have been aware on BCCSAP. The stakeholders includes key member of parliaments, opposition leaders, media professionals, key officials and CSO leaders. • Critical opinions on BCCSAP have developed.
2	Compilation and feedback in national level, Integration in national budget and five year planning.	Compilation of the divisional level outcome. Consultation with key parliament members, journalists, CSO leaders and donor officials for identification of key issues for coordination and integration in BCCSAP implementation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Output of divisional workshops has compiled. • Key media journalist has been aware on priority basis and started intelligence gathering on BCCSAP implementation. • At least 20 key parliamentarians especially who are related to key parliamentary standing committee, 20 donors officials, and 20 key national CSO leaders has been aware on latest issues of implementation. • Critical issues for coordination and integration has been identified. • Issues has identified for integration in national budget and five year planning.
3	Critical issues of coordination and integration in five key thematic aspects.	Thematic paper preparation on five key issues (e.g., food security, social protection, comprehensive disaster management, capacity building and institutional strengthening) and national level seminar with key stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key stakeholders in six key areas have been aware and suppose to take initiatives for integrated and coordinated implementation of BCCSAP. • At least 250 key stakeholders (includes, member of parliaments, key opposition leaders, media professionals, and CSO leaders) aware on critical implementation issues in respect of coordination and integration.
4	Constant monitoring and CSO activism in macro level on climate financing.	Primer development on democratic ownership and SDR financing. Dialogue with parliamentarians and journalists in national level. Continuous newspaper and intelligence interaction based monitoring and CSO activism through rally and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parliamentarians rising question on climate finance and its management. • Journalists are writing investigative report in view of democratic ownership and SDR financing. • Awareness in national level especially among the high level policy stakeholders on transparent, sovereign, and accountable management of climate fund management with democratic ownership

	seminar.	and sovereign, democratic and responsible (SDR) financing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IFIs are taking cautious to push government on imposing conditionality in funding.
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8. Implementation schedule of 18 months: August 2010 to January 2012. (legend ; = events, > = started and will continue)

Year	2010		2011						2012
Months	A-S	O-N	D-J	F-M	A-M	J-J	A-S	O-N	D-J
1. Critical awareness on climate impact and BCCSAP									
1.1. Manual and preoperational workshop on divisional workshop with CSRL leaders	*								
1.2. Pilot workshop and methodology adjustment.		*							
1.3. Six divisional workshops, feed back compilation		*	*						
Year	2010		2011						2012
Months	A-S	O-N	D-J	F-M	A-M	J-J	A-S	O-N	D-J
2. Compilation and feedback in national level, raising issues for integration in national budget and five year planning									
2.1. Workshop with media professional.			*						
2.2. Fellowship for investigative reporting			*						
2.3. Sharing workshop with parliamentarians.				*					
2.4. Sharing with CSO leaders in national level					*				
2.5. Sharing with donor officials					*				
2.6. Budget discourse, seminar and budget feedback, correlation to five year planning					*	*			
Year	2010		2011						2012
Months	A-S	O-N	D-J	F-M	A-M	J-J	A-S	O-N	D-J
3. Critical issues of integration and coordination in four key thematic issues of BCCSAP.									
3.1. Thematic paper on food security and agriculture and national seminar						*			
3.2. Thematic paper and seminar on social protection and safety net						*			

5.2. Plan of operation and monitoring device, stakeholder list and communication strategy preparation. Workshop	10								
5.3. Quarterly meeting with joint project EquityBD/CSRL advisory group and improvisation in planning and implementation		10		10		10		10	
5.4. Joint EquityBD/CSRL review. Workshop.							10		
5.5 Next project preparation, Workshop							10		
Component total : 880									
Grand total	225	265	530	225	215	440	435	125	115
All column and row total : 2575 (first eight month total 1245.90)									

10. Management of the project implementation

On behalf of EquityBD, COAST will be reportable to the donor for implementation of the project as COAST Executive Director also as the Moderator of EquityBD.

There will be Joint CSRL and EquityBD Project Advisory Group will be formed and the group will sit quarterly, in view of the advice EquityBD Moderator Council will guide the project implementation. There will be workshop in the beginning to prepare plan of operation, monitoring device of the project which will be improvised in course of time, in fact which will ensure optimum affectivity and appropriate need. A flexibility approach will be maintained in this regard.

Like other campaign activities EquityBD will maintain as much as possible low cost / ethical spending policy so that there are utmost care of money with highest affectivity and also as much as possible inclusive policy so that it is rooting the issues in wider community and creating probability for long term social movement.

A presentation will also give to the Ministry of Environment and also Climate Cell in the beginning so that there should be some level of their involvement so that in divisional level there will be participation of government officials, who need to be aware on BCCSAP and its integration. During the inception workshop on plan of operation preparation a stakeholder list with a communication strategy will be prepared so that there will be highest level of policy influence from the project activities.

It should be noted that COAST has proper government registration and also it has established institution and procedures to follow standard finance, human resources, and auditing and other governance policies including an information disclosure policy and complain response mechanism. A separate section on this project will be maintained in equitybd website so that all concern will get all relevant information.

The End

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Project Proposal on

**Enhancing coordinated and integrated efforts for
Accountable implementation of BCCSAP and promotion
of democratic ownership: phase one**

**Implementing Organization
Equity and Justice Working Group (EquityBD)
COAST Trust**