

Subject : EquityBD plan of operation for the year 2013, January 2013

1. Vision, Mission and Rationales

Equity and Justice Working Group Bangladesh (EquityBD) is a campaign platform and CSO alliance that has been established in August 2007 with a vision of “a world of equity and justice where human rights and democracy is the social culture”. The mission of this alliance is “to promote policy debate and practice changes through campaign and mobilization linking local, national and international level”. The Rationales of establishing this alliance are; a) to strengthen NGO/CSOS position and campaigning against the neo-liberal economic policies, (b) to initiate contemporary need based campaign following a quick process of decision making and (c) to build alternative non partisan CSO movement against the flawed development paradigm

2. Campaign Strategies

a. EquityBD as program component of COAST as integration of RBA.

COAST believes in integration of Right Based Approach (RBA) with its existing core program i.e. programs running with a progressive Micro Finance (MF) incomes on operationally sustainable basis. The MF program has needed to strengthen with social and political acceptability .

COAST define RBA integration as (i) organizational and staff behaviours of the organization should be based on orientation of Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), (ii) formalization of beneficiary participation in management consultation and also in ownership as member participants, (iii) formation of people organization (PO) and leadership building among the member participants for promotion of alternative power structure ie making the group approach not as mere credit and savings mechanism this should be as a right claiming mechanism too, (iii) facilitating social action and demand mediation by POs on poor people's legitimate rights so that there is an accountable relation between poor families and state agencies, (iv) strengthening non partisan but political civil society both in local and national level in alliance with POs with issue based mobilization / campaign and advocacy.

COAST vision is to run all these programs with the income from micro finance programs or with little or less dependency on donors. Apart from these COAST also run primary health care and CITEP (ie, Coastal Integrated Technology Extension Program, eg, technology irrespective of agriculture, livestock and fishery) and cover a portion of group members out of micro finance income too. Basically to provide some indispensable requirement of the member participants to address income erosion and income enhancement factors.

So, EquityBD is part of COAST core program for networking, campaign and advocacy in national and international level in this regard.

b. Campaign Built In Strategies for Result Orientation

The group emphasizes on campaign and advocacy for policy and practice changes with micro and macro linkages. EquityBD follows a systematic approach in all its campaign and mobilization initiatives; (i) policy research and specific positioning, (ii) influencing high level political policy makers in national level (iii) intensive effort for media coverage both in print and electronic media to reach as much as possible outreach to promote critical mass, (iv) giving emphasis on cyber activism and web-based campaign (electronic newsletter, campaigning through group mail, e-networking etc.) for wider coverage of stakeholders both in national and international level, (v) alliance with relevant regional and international network to strengthen voices and policy influences. From this year EquityBD will give emphasis not to produce hard copy printing or paper based production, so that there will be less carbon foot print and making paper less office and (vi) as it is a national parliamentary election year EquityBD will try to

reach as much as possible policy leaders in political parties, so that there will new member of parliaments (MP) who is already oriented on our concern and issues.

3. EquityBD campaigns in 2012

In the year 2012, there was major focus of EquityBD campaign on climate justice. EquityBD has conducted 27 events (Seminar, workshop, human chain mass rally etc) where 20 events (11 seminar & workshop, 04 press conference 04 human chain and one mass rally) are on the issue of climate justice especially demanding transparency & accountability in government managed climate funds (Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund-BCCTF), opposing WB involvement in BCCRF (Bangladesh Climate Change Resilient Fund), demanding new country policy on climate change induced internal displacement those were as major. EquityBD has also conducted campaign during the pre and post CoP (Conference of the Parties that happened in Doha, Qatar in Dec 2012) on pro people positioning on climate negotiation. Among these campaigns, EquityBD conduct seminar & workshop, press conference in both country and in Doha during CoP demanding legally binding agreement for emission and a new international protocol for climate induced displacement.

Apart form these, EquityBD has also conducted campaign and policy advocacy on the issue of new VAT Act-2012, campaign on demanding domestic resource mobilization for pro poor development planning, food sovereignty issue especially campaign opposing land grabbing and to protect agriculture land. All these campaign has conducted through preparing related position paper and submission the recommendations where necessary. These information are available in EquityBD website www.equitybd.org.

5. EquityBD Planning process

a. Long-term/Five year planning

Since the beginning EquityBD is following long term plan. Second long term plan has been prepared for the duration of 2012 to 2015. This is a rolling plan in view of vision and mission and in view of EquityBD strength. In each year in the beginning of the year, the plan being reviewed and revised. In view of the revised plan for rest of the period EquityBD has set five thematic areas those are climate justice, economic justice, Right based approach and climate change integration with MF, food sovereignty, coastal livelihood security and building credible CSO. EquityBD think that, at the end of the implementation of this five year campaign and advocacy program, we expect following major impacts will be observed.

Broad sector	Sub sector	Expected major impact in different level		
		Local (district and division)	National level	International Level
Climate Justice	- Integrating climate adaptation with national plan - national climate commission - single autonomous board with democratic ownership for climate finance	- Local level adaptation plan will be prioritized	- Budgetary allocation is increased - support on mainstreaming climate finance / single board management of two fund - support for national climate commission	- Donor support is enhanced - Positive image on climate finance use in Bangladesh
	- Campaign during CoP-19 events on climate migrants rights, pro positioning in climate negotiations at UNFCCC	- CSO voice raised in formulating “Internal displacement management policy”	- Internal displacement management policy stressed to the government -Pro poor positioning in UNFCCC negation, CSO paralal process.	- Public opinion for new UN protocol on climate migrants. - Voice on positioning on UNFCCC process in favour of climate

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		Local (district and division)	National level	International Level
				vulnerable and least developed countries. - Parala CSO process strengthened.
Economic Justice	- Campaign on Unveiling underground economy / black money in Bangladesh	- Critical mass and voice raised against underground economy / black money	- Volume of legal economic activities increased - Government revenue (direct & indirect) increased - Govt taken positive steps to reduce the scope of black money	- Positive reputation of Bangladesh enhanced in globally
	- Campaigning on strengthening transparency and responses on public audit system	- Critical mass and CSOs on appropriate and corruption free use of public money	- Policy makers and bureaucrats feel public pressure for transparent audit response, accountability of public finance has enhanced.	- As public audit system has enhanced, donors will feel positive to Bangladesh to provide official development assistance
	- Campaign on Tax & spending Justice	Voice raised on - Against VAT expansion - Demand to collect direct Tax stressed	- Govt. keeping his VAT expansion in limited areas or at a minimum rate - Budget allocation to essential services increased	
Right based approach and climate change integration with MF	- Campaign on Policy alternative for Coastal MFIs (Micro Finance Institute)	- Local (coastal) MFI is sensitized and act together	- MRA and PKSf has considered especial policy to address climate change impacts	-
	- Policy advocacy for RBA integration or social performance of MFIs	- MFIs convinced on integration of RBA / the importance of social performance in MF program and initiate to improve quality of their financial services	- MRA and PKSf support integration of RBA / the social performances in MFI. - Political and social support to MF programs has enhanced.	- Positive reputation enhanced
Food Sovereignty	- Campaign on govt. Seed policy & GMO, and promotion of local seed promotion at community level	- Farmer's are sensitized on bad effects of hi-breed agriculture & GMO and voice raised - Farmers adopted locally appropriate local seeds production & preservation method (eg, Maria Model)	- Policy formulation stressed to the govt. in controlling the seed marketing companies, pro people clause and surveillance in seed company activities	- Network on solidarity enhanced
	-Campaign on anti land grabbing and law for preserving agriculture land.	- Local level CSO has developed to raise voice on anti land grabbing.	- Government considering law to preserve agricultural land preservation, taking steps to misuse of land in the name of development projects and real estate business	
	- Anti pesticide campaign along with IRWD networks	- Local level CSO and farmers aware on health hazards of chemical pesticide. Farmers started use of integrated pest	- Government taking steps to control on rampant use and import of chemical pesticide. Government agriculture extension	

Broad sector	Sub sector	Expected major impact in different level		
		Local (district and division)	National level	International Level
		management (IPM) which is locally appropriate.	department also taking steps to promote IPM among farmers level.	
Coastal Livelihood Security	- Policy advocacy & campaign on Salt price	- Local salt farmer's united and raised voice for fair price	- Government keeping his salt import in a limit	
	- Campaign on safe river way	- Government has taken steps to make as much as possible safe riverine lunch communication especially during Eid vacation	- National level measures on monitoring and enforcement of law on riverine lunch movement - Reduce seasonal launch accident ie, deaths of coastal poor people.	
Building credible CSO and partnership for aid / development effectiveness	- Seminar on CSO partnership on Development / Aid Effectiveness - Seminar on Post 2015 / MDG agenda		- CSOs are sensitized and interacted with other development stakeholders (eg, government bureaucrats and politicians) for aid / development effectiveness, setting principle and understanding for cooperation. - Government taken step to accelerate MDG process. - Opinion has developed on what should be the Post 2015 / MDG agenda, develop common agenda with other CSO stakeholders	- Participation in international events as member of Social Watch and LDC Watch or Better Aid, if there is any invitation. - Bangladeshi voice has raise and integrated with international CSO alliances as mentioned above.

b. Annual plan of operation 2013

This is minimum plan of actions, as there are only chance to get funding support from COAST and there are part of tax justice campaign support for the year 2013 from Tax Justice International. We are expecting that there will be more donor support in this regard.

6. Plan for 2013

a. Projection of activities in Thematic Areas

Themes	Detail Activities and strategies in 2013	Responsible Person
1. Climate Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Integration climate change adaptation strategies with national development plan and demand for National Climate Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Study national development plan and BCCSAP, 6th FYP and Perspective Plan 2021 ii. Prepare Position paper and conduct seminar (prep and post budget) b. Pre and Post CoP-19 Event (Seminar and Press conference) both in national and UNFCCC premise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Building CSO alliance with climate campaigning networks in BD and partnership with other networks from different global regions on the issue of climate migrants rights. ii. Preapre position paper on campaigning internal displacement policy and pro people positioning for government delegation in UNFCCC iii. Position Paper develop on selected campaign issues c. Climate / development Finance monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. In coordination with other networks on this issue, ii. May be a try to out to do few trial basis media investigative journalism and based on this local level CSO mobilization toward to form a national level coalition on public participatory monitoring on climate / development finance. In view of the context it should not be considered as mere climate finance, it should be brought under the purview of total development finance. d. Campaign on institutional reform – WDB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Collection of case studies on WDB on embankment construction and maintainace, develop policy options on appropriate pro people and appropriate work procedures and low cost solutions. ii. Orgnize seminar / public events with Policy makers and high officials. 	SAH RKC BUM

2. Economic Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Campaign on Unveiling underground economy / Black money in Bangladesh <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Study on the related issue and collect necessary information ii. Prepare position paper and conduct seminar and human chain rally etc. b. Campaign on Tax Justice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Prepare position paper and conduct human chain/seminar ii. Conduct rally/human chain on demanding increased direct tax collection iii. Seminar on Essential Public Service (Education and Health) and Tax Justice relation 	AKB
3. Right based approach and climate change integration with MF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Campaign on Policy alternative for Coastal MFIs (Micro Finance Institute) addressing climate change through micro finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Study on coastal livelihoods and risk factors for micro credit program from climate change issues ii. Prepare position paper and dialogue with coastal MFIs and MRA (Micro Credit regulatory Authority) b. Policy advocacy for integration of right based approach (RBA) or social performance in MFIs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Study and collection of tools and cases ii. Present the paper in CDF annual conference or organize seminar / public events, in alliance with MFI networks and interested MFIs. 	TSH
4. Food Sovereignty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Campaign on Seed policy (Produce, preservation, marketing & distribution policy), gaps in certification system in view of pro poor and pro farmers perspective. c. Campaign against GMO (Especially on Golden Rice that starts trial in Bangladesh) d. Campaign against land grabbing and protecting agriculture land e. Observing IRWD related with FS (Press Conference, district wise rally and prizing) especially awaring people on harm and hazards of pesticide. 	MHM
5. Coastal Livelihood Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Policy advocacy & campaign on Salt price b. Campaign on banning trawlers fishing in the off shore in the sea. c. Press conference / rally on safe river way especially on the eve of 8th July MV Nasreen Launch Capsize Day or prior to the eid vacation 	MKA, SAT

6. Building credible CSO	a. Organize seminar in national level on Post 2015 MDG and CPDE / aid effectiveness agenda.	MKA, Reza Bhai

7. Month-wise projection of major campaign activities in 2013

Month	Campaign Activities	Responsibility	Time Line				Budget
			1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	
January	Revision of Long term planning 2012-2015 of EquityBD	RKC			*		
	Preparation of plan of operation for 2013	SAH/RKC				*	
Feb	Campaign on Demand for Open response on Audit Actions, also discussion in parliaments on Public Audit Reports, Human Chain and Rally	SAH		*			5000
	Campaign launching on No To IMF and Yes to Tax Justice with Jubilee Debt Campaign UK. Press Conference	AKB			*		5,000
	Campaign on protecting salt farmers' interest, banning import and construction of embankment. Human chain / Rally both in Coxsbazar and Dhaka.	MKA				*	5,000
March	Mainstreaming climate finance and National Climate Commission. Public Events / Seminar	SAH		*			35,000
	Joint campaign with Sud Alliance, Switzerland on Tax Transparency Agreement Between Bangladesh and Switzerland	SAH / RKC			*		5,000
April	Seminar on Institutional Reform on WDB in respect of coastal embankment development and	BUM			*		35,000

Month	Campaign Activities	Responsibility	Time Line				Budget
			1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	
	maintenance						
	Meeting on IRWD for this year campaign and meeting strategies	MKA		*			10,000
	Seminar “Unveiling underground economy / Black money in Bangladesh and expectation from National Budget 2013 – 14.	AKB			*		35,000
May	Planning study on Tax Justice and Essential Public Service Correlation	AKB		*			
	Campaign on Tax Justice (more personal tax and corporate tax rather than VAT). Human Chain or Press Conference.	AKB			*		5,000
June	Press conference on post budget, reflecting climate integration, mainstreaming climate finance or tax issues	RKC/SAH		*			12,000
	Conduct Rally/Human Chain on demanding increased direct tax collection	SAH/AKB			*		5,000
July	Seminar on climate change integration in MFIs proposing policy options.	SAT				*	35,000
	Press conference on ensuring Safe River Way during Eid vacation or observing MV Nasreen Lanch Capsize Day (8 th July)	MHM / SAT				*	5,000
August	Campaign against GMO (Especially on Golden Rice that starts trial in Bangladesh) . Human Chain and Rally	MHM			*		4,500
September	Seminar on Seed policy (Produce, preservation, marketing & distribution policy)	MHM			*		35,000

Month	Campaign Activities	Responsibility	Time Line				Budget
			1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	
	Campaign / seminar on preparation of land zoning law to protect agricultural land.	MHM			*		35,000
October							
	Country wide campaign with IRWD (press conference, seminar and rally) with anti pesticide issues	MKA/MHM	*	*			1,00,000
November							
	Pre CoP-19 in country campaign with alliance. Two seminars, on internal displacement policy, and Bangladesh delegation negotiation. Open mass rally for climate justice, finance and others.	SAH/RKC	*	*			2,00,000
December							
	During CoP-19, one seminar on demanding UN protocol for climate migrants with international alliance. Two press conference on going process taking the interest of LDC and climate vulnerable countries.	SAH/RKC			*		2,00,000 (US\$ 2500)
	Post CoP 19 press conference						12,000