

**Institution
Inclusion
Participation
&
Rights
Assertion**



**A
Power Shift
Model**



2023-2024

ANNUAL REPORT



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (CDA)

**Editing
and
Publication**

Head of Editorial Board
Shah I Mobin Jinnah
Executive Director, CDA

Report Drafted by:
PMES Department, CDA

Information Supported by:
Field Operation Department, CDA
WEGAD Department, CDA
Finance & Admin Department, CDA

Designed & Published by:
Publication & Documentation Desk, CDA
&
ICT Desk, CDA



Table of Content	
Title	Page Number
Acronyms	03
Chairperson's Foreword	04
Message from Executive Director	05
Executive Summary	06
<i>Shared Vision</i>	07
<i>Mission</i>	07
Values	08
Approach	09
CDA's Strategic Objectives	10
CDA's Working Area	11
Chapter (1) Institution Building	12-17
Chapter (2) Access to Land Rights	18-25
Chapter (3) Agrarian Reform	26-30
Chapter (4) Environmental Sustainability and Climate Resilience	31-36
Chapter (5) Networking for Grassroots democratization and Good Governance	37-47
Chapter (6) External Evaluation	48-50
Chapter (7) CDA's Central Training & ICT Center	51-54
Comments from the Treasurer	56
CDA's Financial Part	57
General Board Members of CDA: 2023-2024	58
Executive Committee of CDA: 2023-2024	59
Desk wise Role and Responsibilities	60-65

Acronyms

CDA	Community Development Association
GO	Government Organization
NGO	Non Government Organization
LGIs	Local Government Institutions
SOLAR	Sustainable Organization for Land Rights and Agrarian Reform
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
ICESC&C&PHR	International Covenant of Economic, Social, Cultural & Civil & Political Human Rights
NGOAB	NGO Affairs Bureau
POs	Peoples Organization
ULCC	Union Landless Coordination Committee
UZLCC	Upa-Zilla Landless Coordination Committee
DLCC	District Landless Coordination Committee
FPOs	Federation of Peoples Organization
WFPOs	Women Federation of Peoples Organization
UMC	Unit Management Committee
UMAC	Unit Management Advisory Council
APA	Assistance Providing Assistant
PWD	Persons with Disability
VGD	Vulnerable Group Development
VGf	Vulnerable Group Feeding
DA	Disable Allowance
IPs	Indigenous Peoples
LD	Legal Document
DCR	Duplicate Carbon Receipt
POC	Program Operation Cell
ALRD	Association of Land Reforms and Development
PLA_{NET}	People, Land Rights and Agrarian Reforms in Northern Ecological Territory
WOMEN_{NET}	Women Organization for Movement and Empowerment Network in Ecological Territory
ANGOC	Asian NGO Coalition
ILC	International Land Coalition
NLC	National Land Coalition
BLRN	Bangladesh Land Rights Network
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
WSF	World Social Forum

Chairperson's Foreword

*"Fostering
Accountability
and
Justice for the
Marginalized."*

Community Development Association (CDA) has remained steadfast in shifting the power of the rural landless poor through its flagship program, Institution Building.

By championing inclusive participation, land rights, and agrarian reform, CDA addresses poverty and the accelerating the social, political and historical factors fueling inequality. It disassembles institutional barriers and strengthens marginalized communities leadership for people-centered advocacy, ensuring their rights in systems often resistant to change.



This year marked significant strides in reinforcing the "Parallelogram" structure of Peoples Organization (PO) at the constituency level. Grassroots leaders have driven localization efforts, advocating for the inclusion of marginalized groups in social protection schemes and participatory local development plans. Their proactive engagement with local governments and Members of Parliament has fostered greater accountability and responsiveness, ensuring the needs of the excluded are prioritized in public policy.

As we navigate the challenges of climate change, environmental degradation, and socio-economic inequality, CDA's work remains critical. By aligning our initiatives with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we reinforce our commitment to fostering equitable, inclusive and ecologically sustainable growth. Enhancing the capacity of village-based POs has enabled communities to effectively utilize land and water resources and advocate for land governance that upholds the fundamental rights and tenurial security of the rural poor. CDA's efforts in land rights advocacy, agrarian reform, and climate resilience continue to drive sustainable development and uplift the most vulnerable.

I extend my deepest gratitude to CDA staff, program partners, and stakeholders whose dedication has been pivotal in achieving this year's progress. Together, we remain resolute in advancing a shift in power that ensures equity, inclusion, and justice for those we serve.

Regards

Adv. Md. Azizul Islam
Chairperson, CDA

Message from Executive Director

"Together for
a Future
Rooted in
Rights and
Resilience."

In the evolving political, social, and economic landscape of Bangladesh, the need for a just and inclusive transition to people-centered development has become more pressing than ever. This transformation cannot be achieved through isolated efforts or outdated practices. It requires the collective action of those who have been historically marginalized—those who understand firsthand the deep-seated issues of exclusion and disempowerment.



CDA firmly believes in empowering affected communities to take leadership of their own futures. CDA continues to focus on building the capacities of these communities, ensuring that they are equipped to seize opportunities, access resources, and advocate for their rights. By promoting a rights-based, participatory approach to development, CDA has laid the groundwork for sustainable growth rooted in social justice, gender equality, and environmental stewardship.

Over the past year, Bangladesh has faced significant challenges, from climate-induced crises to rising inequality. In response, CDA has remained committed to addressing the root causes of poverty and exclusion. By strengthening the "Parallelogram" instituted as alternative structure of Peoples Organization (PO), we have empowered village-level social governance, fostering localization and amplifying marginalized voices in social protection schemes and development plans towards ensuring equitable access to land and natural resources. The structure of POs has proven instrumental in holding local governments accountable, advocating for policy changes, and ensuring that the voices of the marginalized are heard at all levels of decision-making.

The Annual Report 2023-2024 highlights the remarkable accomplishments of this reporting year. Our strategic alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) underscores our dedication to equitable and inclusive development. CDA has defended people-centered land governance and policy reforms that prioritize the needs of the disempowered extending beyond the local impact. By partnering with national and global networks like the Bangladesh Land Rights Network (BLRN) and the International Land Coalition (ILC), we have played a leading role in advancing land rights on national, regional, and global platforms. These initiatives have been crucial in elevating the importance of people-centered land governance and assertive for policy reforms that prioritize the needs for the empowered Peoples wave. CDA will continue to support grassroots democratization, promote sustainable livelihoods, and advocate for systemic changes from reactive to proactive that ensure the human potentials for anticipatory action against the kleptocracy. Despite entrenched bureaucracies and political resistance, CDA continues to advocate for systemic changes, grassroots democratization, and proactive action to ensure the rights to land & water resources.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to CDA's General and Executive Boards Member dedicated Staff, Peoples Organization Members, Government Officials, Donors, and Partners, including ILC/IFAD, ALRD, PLANET, and WOMENNET. Their unwavering support has been pivotal in driving our collective mission toward equitable and sustainable development.

All the best

Shah I Mobin Jinnah,
Executive Director, CDA

Executive Summary

Community Development Association (CDA) made substantial progress in advancing its vision of fostering a just society rooted in people-centered democracy, gender equality, and ecological sustainability throughout the 2023-2024 periods. By strengthening grassroots institutions, mobilizing marginalized communities, and driving policy advocacy, CDA empowered landless individuals, men, women, children, indigenous peoples, and other vulnerable groups across the northern part of the country especially in Dinajpur and Thakurgaon districts.

Key achievements include the consolidation of People Organization (PO) through the innovative socio-political framework "Parallelogram" at the local level which has enhanced self-governance, leadership, and decision-making capabilities. These grassroots structures have been instrumental in facilitating land rights for marginalized communities, securing access to over 20.53 acres of public land for housing, agriculture, and livelihoods. Notably, 33 women-headed families gained control over water bodies, and indigenous families also benefitted significantly from these initiatives.

CDA's focus on livelihood enhancement fostered economic empowerment for community members through skills training, entrepreneurship, and access to financial services, contributing to poverty reduction. Environmental sustainability and climate resilience were also prioritized, with programs promoting sustainable agriculture and natural resource management to address climate change challenges.

The organizational commitments to gender equality and social inclusion where the evidence showing that participation of women in leadership roles is increased, particularly within POs where 77% of Executive Committee Chairpersons were women. In addition, CDA's advocacy for policy reform strengthened efforts toward securing land rights and achieving inclusive development outcomes for marginalized communities.

CDA continued to expand partnerships with national and international stakeholders, including the International Land Coalition (ILC) and other civil society organizations, scaling up its impact through collaborative advocacy for Land Rights, Agrarian Reform, and Environmental Sustainability.

Looking forward, CDA plans to build on the next year's successes by deepening community engagement, expanding its advocacy efforts, and fostering greater collaboration across sectors that will be continuing to promote grassroots democracy, Human Rights (ESC, C&P), environmental sustainability, gender equality, and economic empowerment, while advocating for policies reform that contribute to ensure land rights, social justice, and inclusive development through shifting the power to the disempowered.

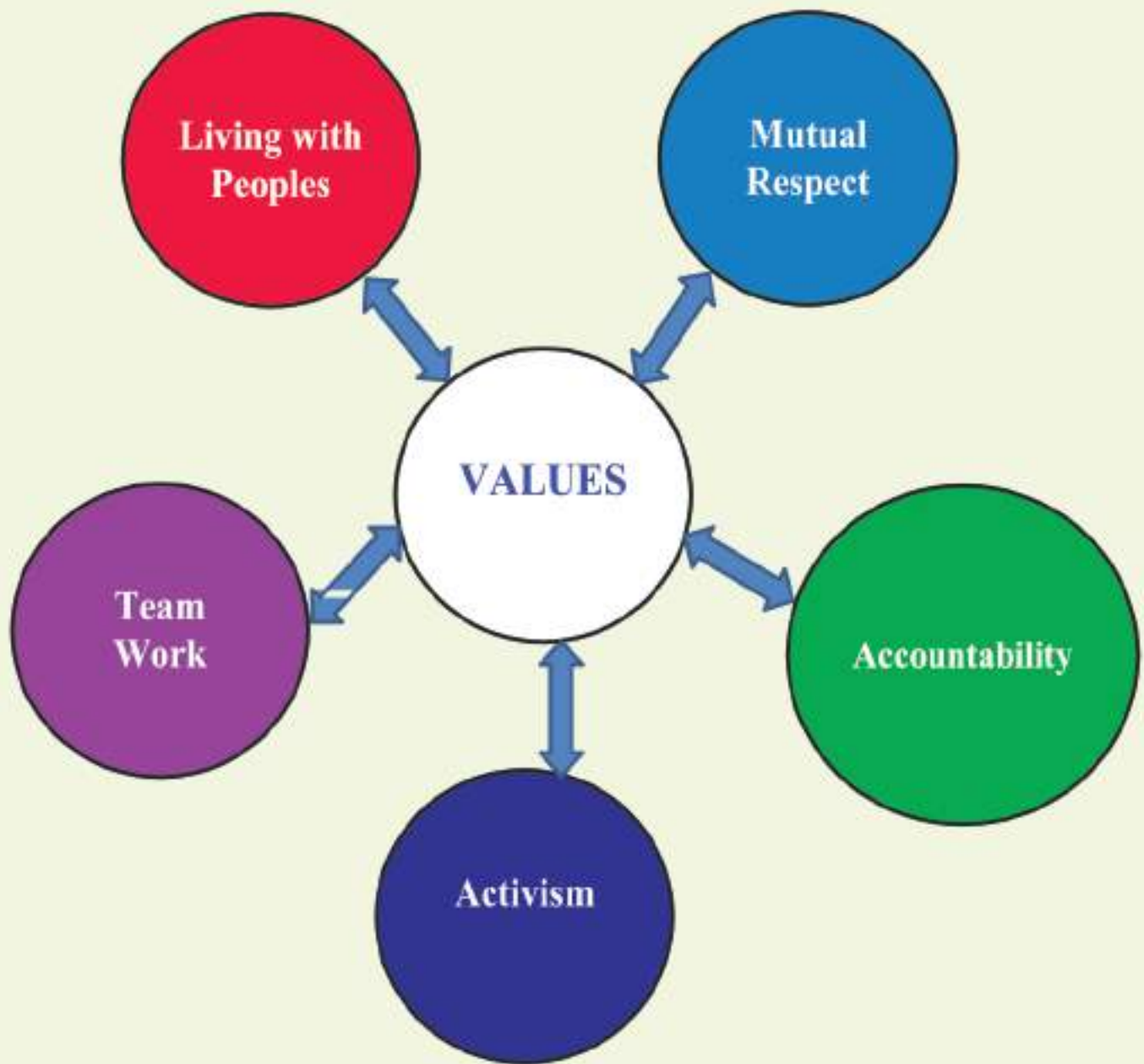
**"Empowering
Communities
Upholding
Access to
Land Rights
and
Resilience for a
Just Society"**

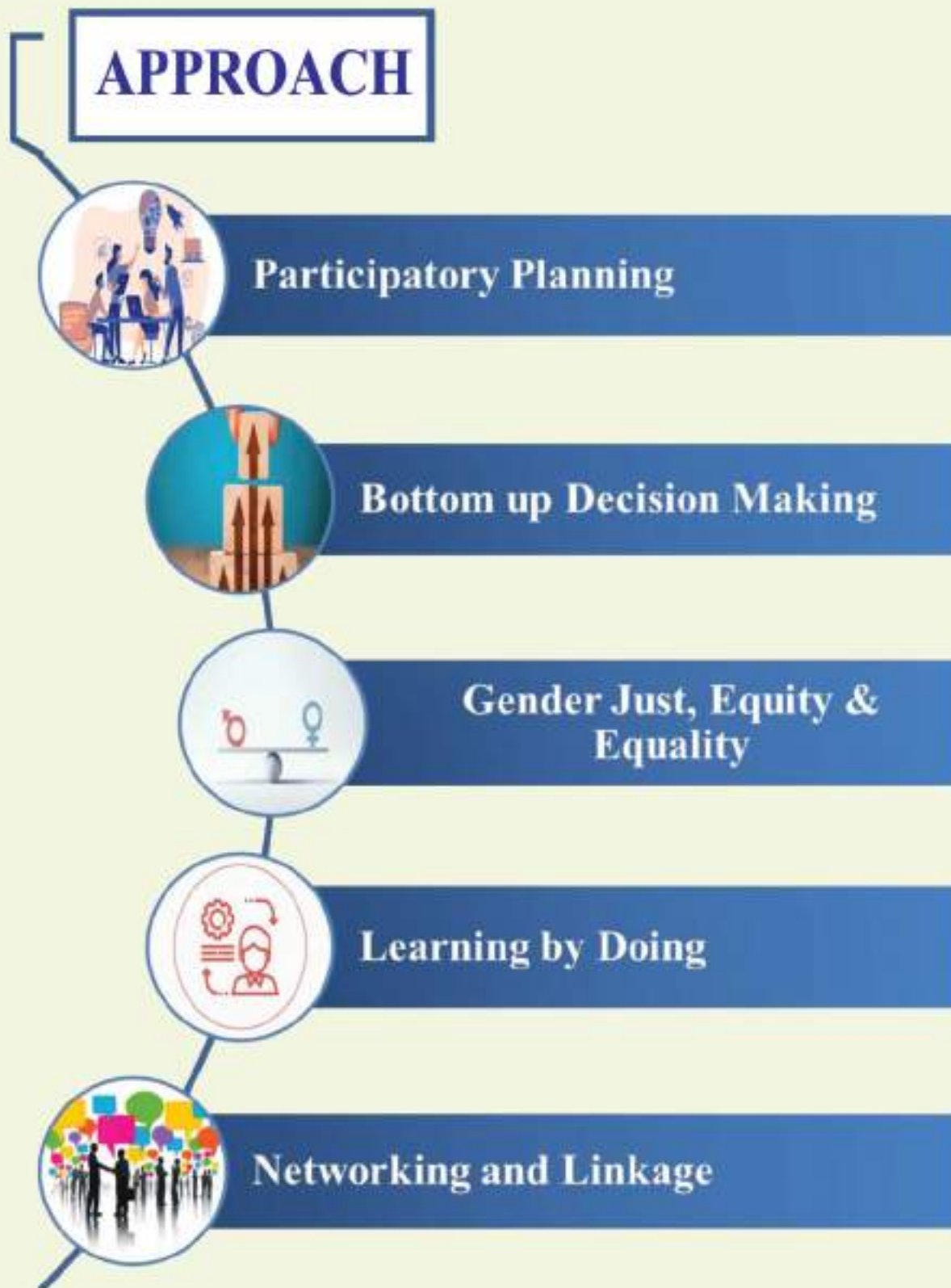
***SHARED
VISION***

Just Society with People centered democracy where no poverty, ecologically balanced and the culture of Economic, Social, Cultural, Civil & Political Human Rights are ensured with Land Governance, Gender equalities and Freedom.

MISSION

Building self-help Peoples Organization by the deprived, oppressed and excluded vulnerable community Peoples (Landless Men & Women, Children, Youth, IPs, Disable, Old Age, LGBTQ and other Minorities including all ill-health or any disaster affected).





CDA's Strategic Objectives

Capacity Building and Power Shift:

Strengthening the capacity of ladder based self-help Peoples Organization to enhance their self-reliance, leadership, and decision-making capabilities. Provide training, mentorship, and resources to shifting the power to the community members to take responsibility of their own development and for creating the influence with access.

Livelihood Enhancement:

Facilitating the creation of sustainable livelihood opportunities for community members, with a focus on income generation, entrepreneurship, and skills development. Promote access to markets, financial accessibility and decent work training to uplift economic conditions and reduce poverty.

Social Inclusion and Gender Equality:

Promoting inclusivity and gender equality in all aspects of our work. Activating for the rights and representation of marginalized & excluded groups, women, and children, ensuring their meaningful participation in decision-making processes and equitable access to resources and services.

Advocacy and Policy Reform:

Engaging in evidence-based research and analysis to identify key issues affecting the landless vulnerable, poor, and marginalized communities. Promote people centered advocacy for policy reforms at the Local, National, Regional and Global levels, emphasizing the importance of participatory planning and bottom-up approaches for community solutions.

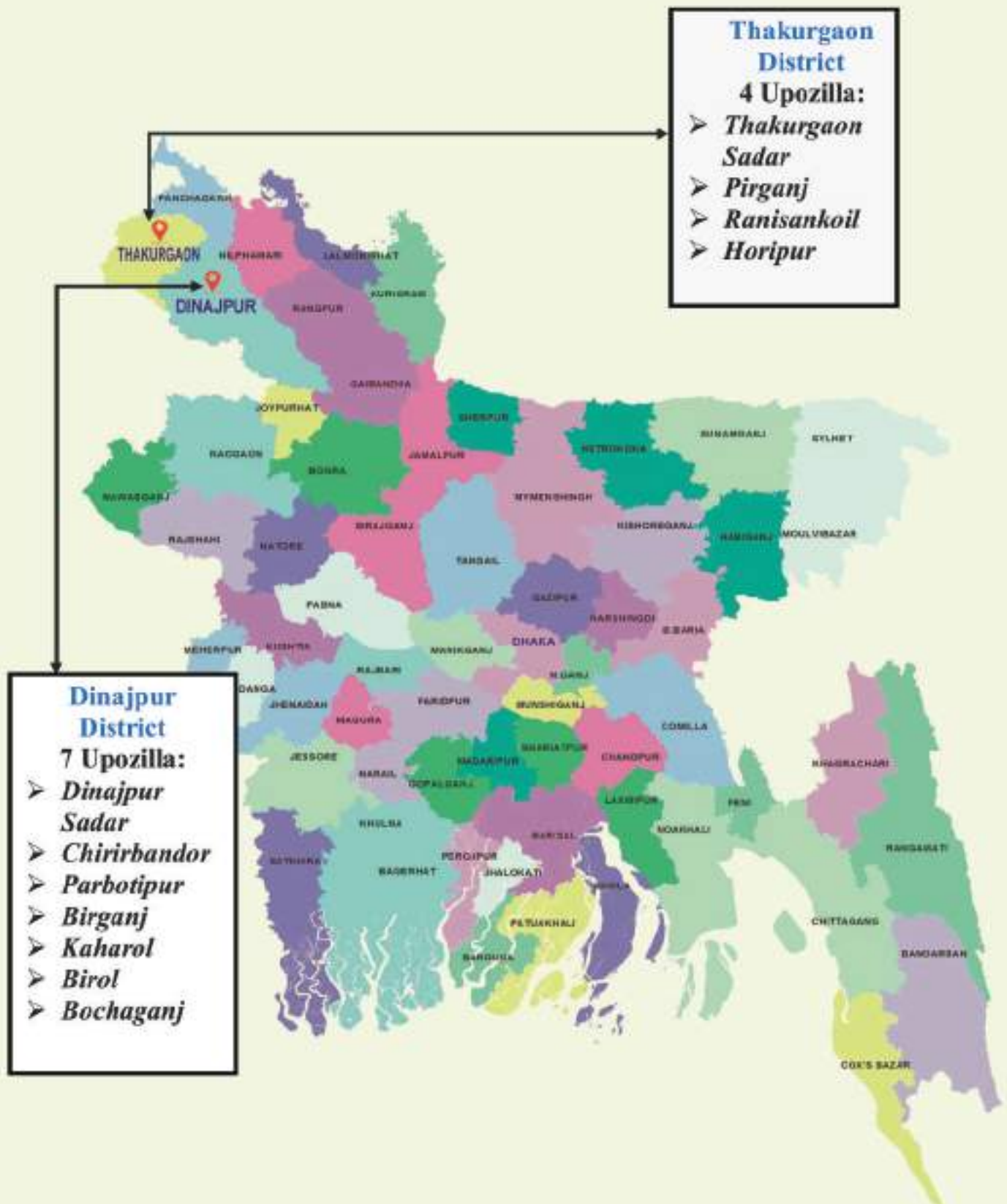
Partnerships, Networking and Collaboration:

Strengthening strategic partnerships with Peoples Organization, Government Agencies, other Local & National NGOs, Civil Society Organizations, and international development partners to leverage resources, expertise, and knowledge. Foster collaboration to address common challenges, share best practices, and scale up impact through grassroots mobilization for connecting and building influence towards ensuring democracy and good governance and for reducing inequalities.

Environmental Sustainability:

Integrating environmental sustainability into CDA interventions, promoting climate resilience, natural resource management, and sustainable agricultural practices. Raise awareness on climate change adaptation and mitigation, and promote biological solutions within the village communities.

CDA's Working Area



Program Highlights for 2023-2024

Chapter: 1

Institution Building

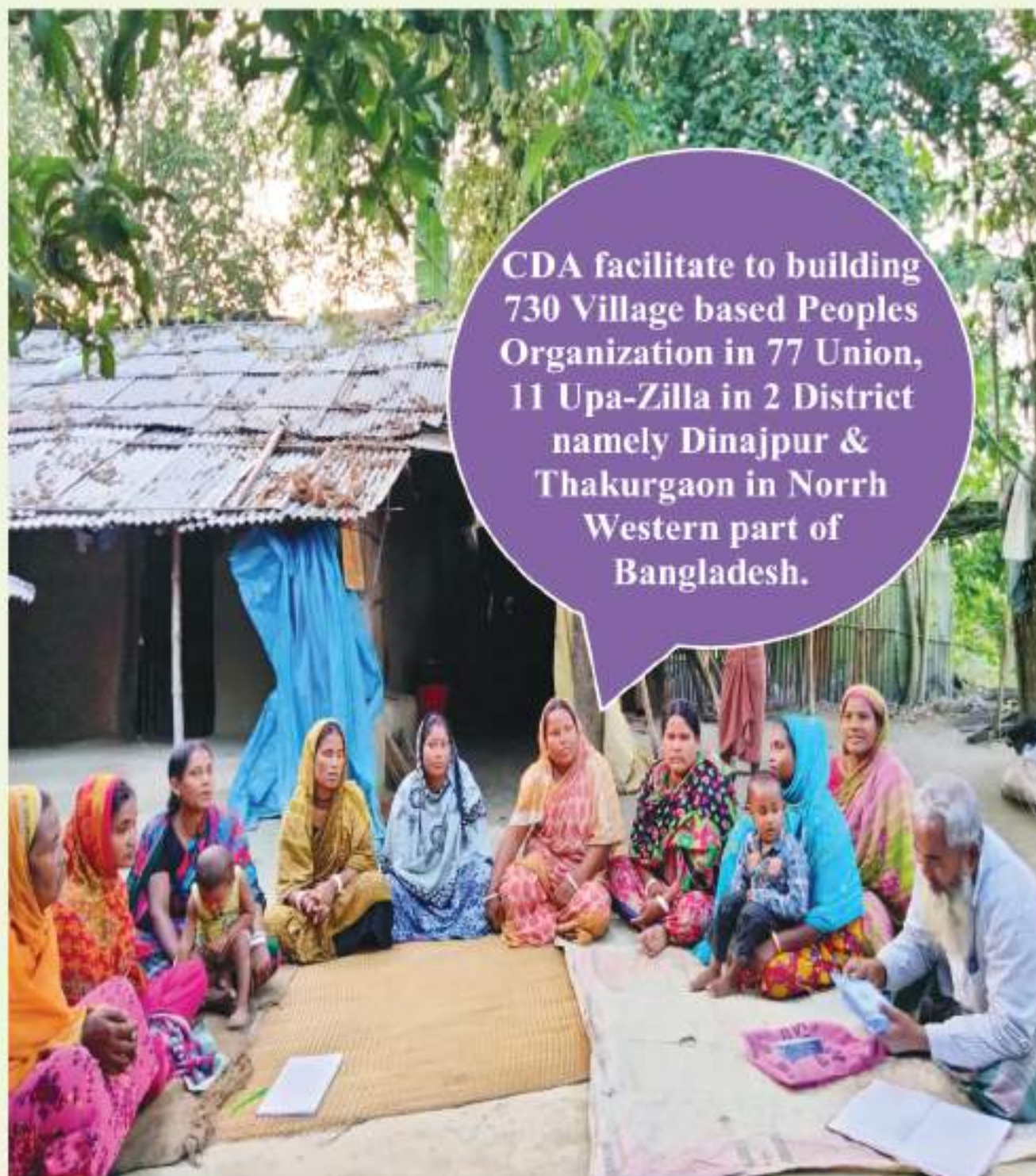
Institution Building: Shifting the Power

Facilitating Peoples Organization (PO) for Grassroots Empowerment and Policy Mobilization:

Institution building remains a cornerstone of the **Community Development Association (CDA)**, driving equitable and sustainable development by empowering landless and marginalized rural communities. Through its facilitative role, CDA continues to foster grassroots participation in power dynamics, politics, and people centered policy advocacy to ensure the stewardship of land and others natural resources through a "Parallelography."

In the reporting year, CDA's Institution Building program has evolved significantly, reinforcing its innovative approach known as the "Parallelogram Framework" a multi-tiered, sustainable structure that empowers grassroots leaders and enhances community solidarity. At the base of this framework, Para-Level Samities unite landless individuals to identify shared challenges and craft collaborative solutions. These samities serve as a platform for forming inclusive and non-partisan Village-Based Peoples Organization (PO), ensuring representation across diverse community segments. Further along the structure, the Union Landless Coordination Committees (ULCC), Upa-Zilla Landless Coordination Committees (UZLCC), and District Landless Coordination Committees (DLCC) have been instrumental in amplifying the grassroots voice. These bodies coordinate efforts to mobilize policies, facilitate convergence with local authorities, and advocate for legislative reforms that secure land and resource rights for the landless.

The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) recognizes that the ideal of free human beings enjoying civil and political freedom and can be achieved only if conditions are created whereby everyone may enjoy his civil and political rights, as well as his economic, social and cultural rights. In conformity the constitution of Bangladesh not only declares democratic governance as one of the fundamental principles of state policy, but also stipulates that the republic shall be a democracy in which fundamental human rights and freedom and respect for the dignity and worth of the human person shall be guarantee. The Institution Building strategy is absolutely relevant with the constitutional commitment of Bangladesh as well as ICESCR. The institution building framework is contributing to achieve the Vision towards prosper peaceful rural society by establishing and fostering participatory inclusive democracy; crucial for marginalized men and women in accessing land and other natural resource for their sustainable livelihoods. The institution building strategies are absolutely contributory to bring changes in power relationships towards greater participation of the rural poor in decision making at all levels and especially in decisions directly affecting their livelihoods. Village based institution building has rightly chosen the entry point of mobilizing Peoples Organization is accessing Khash Land and other natural resources, which is supported by the law and policies of the government of Bangladesh serving as a liver for moving towards broader agrarian reforms; encompassing social, political, environmental and gender in an integrated manner.



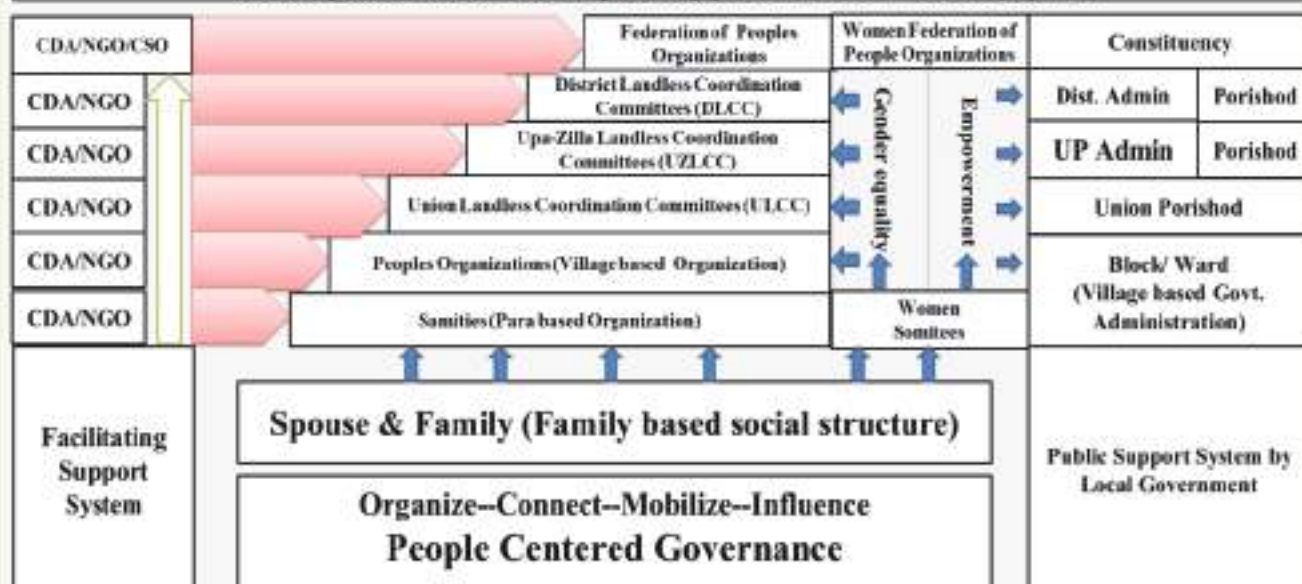
**CDA facilitate to building
730 Village based Peoples
Organization in 77 Union,
11 Upa-Zilla in 2 District
namely Dinajpur &
Thakurgaon in Norrh
Western part of
Bangladesh.**

Based on CDA's vision, mission and decades of praxis generated learning, CDA designed on a well-grounded conceptual framework of Parallelogram for creating a socio-political structure of shifting power process.

Sustainable Organization (SO/PO)

Samities+POs+ULCC+UZLCC+DLCC+FPOs/ WFPOs = PARALLELOGRAM

(A socio-political structure of Empowering process in sustainable development)



CDA's institution building efforts in shifting power framework is called "PARALLELOGRAM", a multi-tiered sustainable organizational structure designed to empower grassroots leaders and foster community solidarity. At the ground, Para-Level Samities bring together landless individuals to identify common challenges and devise collaborative solutions. These Samities serve as the foundation for the formation of Village-Based POs, embodying principles of non-partisanship and inclusivity to ensure representation from diverse segments of society. Further up the hierarchy, the Union Landless Coordination Committee (ULCC), Upa-Zilla Landless Coordination Committee (UZLCC), and District Landless Coordination Committee (DLCC) strengthen the affected grassroots voice and movement for policy mobilization, facilitating coordination, enhance convergence with local government authorities tier wise and advocating for legislative reformation.

CDA is a driving force in organizing and mobilizing disempowered rural communities, ensuring their access to Land rights and Natural Resources by building the village-based Peoples Organization (PO) along with a tier based Parallelogram, CDA has already succeeded the goal is shifted the Power to the collective disempowered people the men, women, youth, indigenous peoples, and other vulnerable groups towards ensuring their fundamental rights and interests. These PO serve through platforms for participatory planning and bottom-up decision-making for collective action, enabling members to address pressing socio-economic challenges and assert their rights confidently within their communities. As a result, CDA continues to drive socio-political transformation, demonstrating how the power of collective organization at the grassroots level can influence local policies, redistribute power, and ensure sustainable access to resources for marginalized groups.

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

- Strengthening efforts to address gender inequalities and promote women's empowerment at all levels.
- Enhance women's participation in decision-making, leadership roles, and income-generating activities, ensuring their rights and voices are recognized and valued.

At the grassroots level, vulnerable individuals reside in local groups known as Samities, which are organized within villages. These Samities are further federated into Peoples Organization (PO). This structure progresses vertically through Union, Thana (Sub-District/Upa-zilla), and District-level committees, fostering an informal tripartite relationship aimed at enhancing access to public services. Additionally, all women members of the village-based POs are represented at the national assembly level through the Womens Federation of Peoples Organizations (WFPOs), advocating for their rights and agrarian policy mobilization.



A village-based Peoples Organization consists of a minimum of four Samities, ensuring gender balance with at least two representatives from each gender. By policy, all members of the Samity automatically become part of the General Body, upholding a commitment to 50% representation of both men and women. The Community Development Association (CDA) is dedicated to promoting gender equality and empowering women as essential components of sustainable development. CDA prioritizes the active participation of women in all aspects of the Peoples Organization and decision-making processes. Aiming for at least 50% of leadership roles to be held by women at the Peoples Organization level, CDA focuses on grassroots women's

leadership and empowerment. The organization has worked tirelessly to create an inclusive environment where women's voices are heard, valued, and respected. Through targeted outreach, capacity-building workshops, and leadership training programs, CDA empowers women to assume leadership roles within their communities and become catalysts for change.

**77% Chairperson of
Executive Committee of
Peoples Organizations are
Women**

Furthermore, CDA addresses gender-based discrimination and advocates for women's rights through awareness-raising and policy interventions. Collaborating with local partners, government agencies, and civil society organizations, CDA champions policies that promote gender equality, combat gender-based violence, and ensure equal access to resources and opportunities for women.

Looking ahead, CDA remains committed to advancing gender equality and women's empowerment as fundamental principles. The organization will continue to prioritize the inclusion and participation of women, advocates for gender-responsive policies and programs, and work towards creating a more equitable and just society for all.



Chapter: 2

Access to Land Rights

Access to Land Rights as Human Rights

477 landless Families of Peoples Organization access and use over 20.53 acres on Public (Khas) Land (soil-water & green)



24 families took possession on 1.24 acres of Agriculture land including 10 women headed families took possession on 0.47 acres of Agriculture land and 30 nos. of Indigenous families have accessed 1.72 acres of Khas land for Agriculture Cultivation.



308 families took possession on 12.99 acres of Water bodies including 33 women headed families on 4.58 acres and also 60 indigenous families have accessed on 3.58 acres of Water bodies.



This year, 145 families have gained 6.3 acres of housing land and 376 families received legal documents from the Government for 16.24 acres of housing land for the landless poor.

Empowering Communities through Land, Leadership, and Livelihood

GHIDOB, a remote village in Khonagao Union, Pirganj Upazila of Thakurgaon district, has long been a place where poverty, hunger, and landlessness defined the lives of its residents. Deprived of access to essential services like education, healthcare, and skill development due to its distance from government and non-government service centers, the villagers faced a harsh reality. Agriculture was their main source of livelihood, but women and children suffered the most, with women confined to household chores and agricultural assistance, lacking opportunities for employment opportunity. The community was fragmented, with no sense of unity or collective action.

Building Peoples Organization (PO)

The turning point for GHIDOB came in November 2018, when the Community Development Association (CDA) stepped in to help organize the landless people. Initially, two women's associations, "Tangon" and "Golapi," and two men's associations, "Sangram" and "Bijoy" (Struggle and victory) were formed, comprising a total of 120 members. These associations later merged to form the Ghidob Peoples Organization (PO), a unified body that signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with CDA to fight for land rights and socio-economic empowerment. CDA provided ongoing support to strengthen the Peoples Organization, offering regular training sessions, helping establish organizational funds, and facilitating communication with local government offices, including the Union Parishad, land offices, and district administration. The PO played a vital role in raising awareness about human rights, self-reliance, and land rights while advocating for gender equality and social justice.

Reclaiming Land and Building Unity of the Land Rights defenders-

GHIDOB journey to empowerment was not without challenges. The village had 87 acres and 9 decimals of khas land (government land), but local land grabbers, with the help of the land office, illegally occupied portions of it. In response, the members of the PO, along with the landless villagers, united to reclaim what was rightfully theirs. Armed only with sticks, they resisted the land grabbers and successfully reclaimed 9 acres and 40 decimals of khas land in two phases. This victory did not come easy. The land grabbers retaliated by filing false cases against the PO members and harassing them through arrests and intimidation. Mohammad Harun Ali, the PO treasurer, was arrested and spent 21 days in jail. The land grabbers even hired thugs to attack the villagers. Despite these challenges, the PO remained resilient, standing firm in their fight for justice as Land Rights defenders.



Economic Empowerment and Collective Success

With the reclaimed land, the PO initiated joint agricultural ventures. On 8 bighas of land, they cultivated maize, and on 2 bighas, they planted sweet pumpkins. The estimated yield from these crops is expected to bring in 375,000 taka. The unity among the villagers not only enabled them to reclaim land but also to achieve financial gains through collective farming. They sold maize from 10 bighas for 176,000 taka, and after covering expenses, their current capital stands at 290,000 taka. The PO strength lies in its unity. Despite several influential groups filing complaints against them in an attempt to break their collective spirit, the PO successfully defended their rights, responding to every challenge with solidarity. Their fight for land rights continues, as they have reclaimed 18 acres of land so far.

Challenges and Overcoming Obstacles



The landless people of GHIDOB faced numerous challenges in their fight for land rights. From

harassment by land officials to the feudal mentality of local landlords, every step was met with resistance. The absence of proper land documents and maps made it difficult for the villagers to prove their claims. Additionally, political bias and lack of cooperation from the local land administration further complicated their struggle. However, the POs organizational strength and collective action proved to be their greatest asset. With CDA's support, they were able to confront these challenges head-on. Through regular meetings, training sessions, and legal assistance, the POs not only fought off land grabbers but also strengthened their resolve to

secure their rightful claims. The success of the GHIDOB Peoples Organization is a testament to the power of unity and collective action. Moving forward, the PO plans to continue building on their success by expanding their agricultural ventures and making better use of the accessed land. They also aim to strengthen their organizational structure by holding regular meetings, saving generation, and continuing their advocacy for land rights. With small savings, the PO plans to undertake larger joint projects, such as purchasing cattle and renting additional land to further their economic self-sufficiency. The members believe that if they remain united and adhere to the four pillars of their organization ideology, values, management, and programs—they can achieve sustainable development and secure a better future for their families. The fight for land rights in Ghidob is far from over, but the villagers are more determined than ever. With the support of CDA and their own collective strength, they are confident that no false case or external pressure can break their unity. The villagers of Ghidob have shown that even in the face of adversity, the impossible can be achieved through solidarity.

Empowering the Disempowered in Mouchousha Village

Collective Land Cultivation for economic equality

Mouchousha, a remote village under Birol Upazila in Dinajpur District was once characterized by extreme poverty, landlessness, and disempowerment. The 35 families—comprising 15 Hindu, 15 Indigenous, and 5 Muslim households—lacked unity and struggled to make ends meet. Their isolation and lack of solidarity made it difficult for them to envision a future beyond their daily hardships.

Recognizing the awful situation, the Community Development Association (CDA) took initiative to make a change. Through discussions and surveys, CDA gained an understanding of the Peoples needs and established small Para-Level groups known as Samities. The village, which is divided into two sub-villages and built two samities, one male and one is female samity in each sub-village. These groups formed the foundation for building a cohesive and inclusive community. With CDA's guidance, the samities came together to establish a village organization, known as the Peoples Organization. The federation of these four samities—two male and two female—ensured the active participation of both men and women in driving the village's development.

One of the key steps toward empowerment was the practice of monthly savings initiated by all samities. Over time, the accumulated savings reached an impressive sum of 662,000 BDT. This collective wealth allowed the villagers to lease 1.5 acres of land from refundable investment 400000 BDT, which they began cultivating with paddy as a community initiative. For the first time, the villagers of Mouchousha were able to engage in collective farming, a practice that has not only provided them with a source of income but also fostered a sense of ownership and self-reliance.

Through their savings and hard work, the people of Mouchousha have overcome the barriers of poverty and disunity. What was once a fragmented and struggling community is now a unified and empowered force working towards sustainable development. With continued efforts and solidarity, the future looks brighter for the families of Mouchousha with the partnership between CDA and their own dedication to building a better tomorrow.



Inclusion and Access to Rights- Human Rights

Empowering Indigenous People through Collective Fish Farming

In the small rural village of Mukundapur, the marginalized and indigenous communities faced numerous socio-economic challenges. Struggling with limited income sources, lack of technical skills, and social barriers, these communities were in dire need of sustainable solutions to improve their livelihoods. That's when the Mukundapur Peoples Organization (PO) stepped in, initiating a transformative project—collective fish farming in public ponds.

The Mukundapur PO recognized the potential of fish farming as a viable source of income for the community. However, the road to success was not easy. They had to overcome several hurdles, including issues with the ownership and allocation of public ponds, administrative inflated tape, financial constraints, and social and cultural barriers that had long marginalized women and indigenous groups.



Determined to make a difference, the PO secured the allocation of a public pond, which was key to starting the project. With support from local authorities and non-governmental organizations, they provided community members with technical training on advance fish farming techniques. The initiatives aim to empower the community by giving them the knowledge and resources to manage their own collective fish farming initiative.

A significant success of the project was the active participation of women and indigenous groups. For the first time, women were not just participants but key decision-makers and contributors. The project provided them with the opportunity to gain financial independence,

breaking away from long-standing cultural barriers. Out of the 95 members involved, 45 were women, and their contributions were crucial to the project's overall success.

With relevant training, the participants were able to collectively manage the fish farm, ensuring the pond was well-maintained and the fish were healthy. The community also learned how to link their produce directly to the market, ensuring they received fair prices for their fish. Over time, the Mukundapur POs collective fish farming project created new employment opportunities for 35 women and generated a reliable source of income for 60 families. The profits from the fish farming not only allowed families to repay loans but also improved their overall financial stability. The increased income led to better living standards, with women playing a critical role in the economic uplift of their households.

The initiatives also fostered social cohesion, as the community members worked together toward a common goal. Regular meetings were held to address challenges, promote mutual understanding, and resolve conflicts, ensuring that everyone's voice was heard and included. What started as a small initiative has now become a model of sustainable rural development. The initiatives has strengthened the community's socio-economic position and provided a sense of ownership and dignity. It has also inspired other nearby villages to explore similar models of collective fish farming as a way to combat poverty and create sustainable livelihoods.

Looking ahead, the Mukundapur PO plans to continue its efforts by enhancing the technical capacity of its members through regular training, promoting environmentally friendly practices, and increasing women's participation. They aim to build a market management team to further improve their direct access to markets, ensuring higher profits and better returns for the entire community.

The Mukundapur Peoples Organization has not only transformed the local economy but also empowered marginalized and indigenous groups, particularly women. This collective fish farming project stands as a beacon of hope, illustrating how communities, when united and supported, can overcome barriers and build a sustainable future.



Chapter: 3

Agrarian Reform

Agrarian Reform for an Empowered Society

Legal and Policy Framework Development

CDA remains firmly committed not only to organizing and empowering the landless to access local resources and essential services but also to facilitating a robust collective mechanism that elevates the voices of affected communities. Through a grassroots approach, CDA empowers these communities to advocate for policy formulation and legislative reforms, ensuring that the needs of the marginalized are addressed within the national agenda.

At the heart of this effort is CDA's people-centered advocacy, which engages Federation of Peoples Organizations (FPOs) and Women Federation of Peoples Organizations (WFPOs), structures designed to elevate the leadership of men and women alike in the struggle for land rights and agrarian reform. Operating within eight Constituencies across CDA's working areas, these gender-based federations serve as the driving force in amplifying the voices of marginalized communities to influence public policy. Their direct engagement with elected representatives and policymakers ensures that the concerns of landless and excluded populations are reflected in legislative agendas and agrarian policy discussions.



CDA's advocacy efforts are focused on several key areas, all of which contribute to building a equitable and sustainable future: these are

- ✓ **Land Rights as Human Rights:** CDA promotes the recognition of land as a fundamental human right. For the landless poor, gaining secure access to land is critical for economic independence and social stability.

- ✓ **Equal Wage Rights and Gender Equality:** Advocacy for gender equality, particularly in terms of wage parity, remains central to CDA's mission. Women in rural communities often face disproportionate barriers to economic opportunity, and CDA's work helps to dismantle these barriers through legislative reforms and local policy changes.
- ✓ **Sustainable Livelihoods and Climate Resilience:** In the context of increasing climate threats, CDA advocates for policies that promote sustainable agricultural practices, climate resilience, and ecological stewardship. Protecting the land, water, forests, and natural resources from degradation is not only an environmental priority but also an economic one for rural communities whose livelihoods depend on these resources.
- ✓ **Defending Land Rights Defenders:** Recognizing the risks faced by those who advocate for land rights, CDA actively supports policies that protect land rights defenders from threats, intimidation, and violence. This includes legal advocacy, awareness campaigns, and international cooperation to safeguard those fighting for justice.

The Federation of Peoples Organizations (FPOs) and Women Federation of Peoples Organizations (WFPOs) are vital in these efforts. They engage with constituency-level policy makers, pressing for agrarian reforms that address the root causes of landlessness and exclusion. Through dialogue, negotiation, and public advocacy, they seek to reform outdated land management policies, ensuring that land is distributed equitably and that marginalized groups, including Women, Indigenous Peoples, and rural poor, have secure tenure rights.

The ongoing collaboration between CDA, FPOs, WFPOs, and policymakers is building momentum for legislative reforms that emphasize the equitable distribution of land and the protection of natural resources. CDA's work in advocating for inclusive policies and defending land rights is central to fostering a sustainable and just development framework that prioritizes the needs of the landless and disempowered.

As CDA continues to support and build the capacities of these Peoples Organizations (POs), and People Centered policy advocacy will remain focused on driving evidence-based changes in the legal and policy frameworks of Bangladesh. By doing so, we aim to shift power to the people and ensure that the most vulnerable are no longer left behind in the country's development process.



রাশীশংকৈলে সাংবাদিকদের সাথে ভূমিহীনদের মতবিনিময় সভা অনুষ্ঠিত

আমাদের প্রতিদিন
10 months ago
৩১২

Facebook Twitter YouTube LinkedIn Instagram WhatsApp



রাশীশংকৈলে সাংবাদিকদের সাথে ভূমিহীনদের মতবিনিময় সভা অনুষ্ঠিত

রাশীশংকৈলে(মুন্সিগঞ্জ)এতিপিপি:
মুন্সিগঞ্জের রাশীশংকৈলে ভূমিহীনদের ভূমি অধিকার ও সরকারি খাস জমিরে প্রবেশাধিকার এবং জরিপ নথ্যাদারদের উচ্ছেদের বিরুদ্ধে উপজেলা পর্যায়ে সাংবাদিকদের সাথে ভূমিহীনদের এক মতবিনিময় সভা অনুষ্ঠিত হয়েছে।
শনিবার (২১ অক্টোবর) দুপুরে কমিউনিটি ডেভেলপমেন্ট এসোসিয়েশন এর ফলকনে মতবিনিময় সভাটি অনুষ্ঠিত হয়।
জনসংগঠনের উপজেলা ভূমিহীন সমন্বয় পরিষদের আয়োজনে সভায় বক্তব্য রাখেন সমন্বয় পরিষদের সদস্য সঞ্চালক মোঃ মালিক হোসেন। আরও বক্তব্য রাখেন জেলা সমন্বয় পরিষদের সদস্য মুরশেদুল হক, ইউপি সম্পাদক সইয়ুজ্জামুল হকীমী, সদস্য আব্দুল করিম, ঐক্য পরিষদের সদস্য মওদুল আলী, আবাসন প্রকল্পের পুত্র পাত্রের বাসিন্দা মোঃবাকর প্রমুখ।
সিডিএ'র সহযোগিতায় এসময় স্থানীয় বক্তব্য রাখেন আঞ্চলিক সমন্বয়কারী জাহেদুর রহমান।
সভায় ইউনিট দপ্তরপ্রাপ্ত আহসান হাবীব ও মুন্সি আফারনসহ সংগঠনের বিভিন্ন ইউনিয়ন ও উপজেলার সদস্যসহ উপজেলা পর্যায়ের সাংবাদিকগণ উপস্থিত ছিলেন।
মতবিনিময় সভায় ভূমিহীনরা তাদের বিভিন্ন সমস্যা এবং সরকারি ভূমিতে দখলদারদের উচ্ছেদ করতে কলহা দেওয়ার ঝের নদি জানান। সভা শেষে উপজেলা নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তা বরাবরে আরকশিপি জানান করে সভায়ের নেতৃবৃন্দ।

Violation of Human Rights

Legal Aid Support for the landless Peoples: Struggle for Justice and Equity

Background:

Community Development Association (CDA) has long been at the forefront of advocating for the rights of landless people in Bangladesh, specifically facilitating their access to public land. Under the public land settlement law in Bangladesh, landless individuals are legally entitled to receive portions of public land, which the government is responsible for distributing. Unfortunately, the reality is far from this legal mandate. Influential land grabbers have seized control of much of the public land, blocking its rightful distribution.

When landless communities, mobilized facilitated by CDA, assert their legal right to public land, conflicts often arise. These confrontations escalate into violent struggles between grabbers and the landless. Grabbers frequently file false cases against landless Peoples, leading to harassment, physical abuse, and even the torture of vulnerable groups within these communities. Tragically, in some cases, women face rape and other forms of sexual violence as part of the repressive tactics employed by those seeking to maintain control over public land.



Member of Kornal & Sarkerpara PO are released from fake and false case in Thakurga

Goal of providing legal Aid Support:

Empowering landless people to defend their rights, access to justice, and secure rightful ownership of public land.

Objectives:

- ✓ Ensuring landless people can access legal representation and resources necessary to navigate the legal system effectively and assert their rights.
- ✓ Providing legal education and awareness, empowering landless individuals with knowledge about their rights and the legal processes related to land ownership.
- ✓ Safeguarding landless people from intimidation, false accusations, and legal harassment by providing support and legal aid in cases of unjust treatment by land grabbers.

CDA plays a critical role in providing legal aid and support to landless people and provide input support such as legal education to shifting the power to the disempowered landless to strengthened their knowledge about their rights, facilitating them to navigate the complexities of the legal system. CDA also supports victims of harassment and violence through legal representation, ensuring that justice is sought for those wrongfully accused or subjected to abuse. Through its efforts, Peoples Organizations continue to fight for the equitable distribution of public land, standing alongside the landless in their pursuit of justice, dignity, and security.

Status of ongoing False Cases against Landless People

District	Ongoing cases	Remarks
Dinajpur	25	A new case was filed against landless people in Birol Upazila under Dinajpur, case no. 39/23
Thakurgaon	29	A new case was filed against landless people in Haripur Upazila under Thakurgaon district, case no. 39/23
Total	54	In total, there are 54 ongoing cases, with 2 new cases recently filed.

The struggle for public land rights is ongoing, and CDA remains committed to its mission of supporting landless people in their fight for justice and land ownership. By offering legal aid and education, CDA plays a critical role in protecting landless people from the abuses of land grabbers, ensuring that their rights are upheld, and advocating for a fair and just system of public land distribution in Bangladesh.

Chapter: 4

Environmental Sustainability and Climate Resilience

Building Climate Resilience and Environmental Sustainability in Chatto-Balihara through Organic Agriculture

Fostering a Greener Future: Building Resilience, Sustaining the Planet

The village of Chatto-Balihara in Dinajpur District once faced numerous challenges: extreme poverty, landlessness, and environmental degradation. The community, consisting of 80 families, lacked the unity and resources to combat these issues. Women had little say in family or community matters, and the people were largely disconnected from sustainable agricultural practices. However, a transformation began when the Community Development Association (CDA) entered the village and initiated a series of development activities aimed at fostering climate resilience and environmental sustainability.

Introducing Vermin composting: A Step toward Sustainable Agriculture

As part of CDA's intervention, the villagers were organized into small groups known as samittes. They began by focusing on collective savings, eventually accumulating a significant fund. However, their journey towards sustainability truly began when they were introduced to the concept of vermin composting—a practice that has not only improved their agricultural yields but also ensured the long-term health of their land.

Vermin composting, a method of using worms to convert organic waste into nutrient-rich compost, became the cornerstone of Chatto-Balihara's transition to organic farming. This method is an environmentally sustainable solution that aligns with the global need to mitigate climate change. By producing their own organic compost, the farmers reduced their dependency on chemical fertilizers, which had long contributed to soil degradation and water contamination.



158 Samittes
has been prepared
fertilizer compost

Empowering the Community to Produce Safe Food

One of the primary motivations behind adopting vermin composting was the desire to produce safe, organic food for the community. The use of organic compost has not only improved crop yields but has also ensured that the food grown in Chatto-Balihara is free from harmful pesticides and chemicals. This shift towards organic agriculture has had a profound impact on the health of the community. Families now have access to safer, healthier food, which is crucial for the well-being of future generations.

In addition to improving food safety, vermin composting has played a critical role in enhancing soil fertility. The nutrient-rich compost has rejuvenated the land, increasing its capacity to retain moisture and resist erosion—both of which are vital in an area prone to the effects of climate change. By improving the soil structure, the farmers have been able to cultivate healthier crops, ensuring food security even in the face of environmental challenges.

**820 family
has been started
Family farming**



Fostering Climate Resilience through Collective Action

The adoption of vermicomposting has not only improved the community's agricultural practices but has also fostered greater unity among the villagers. With facilitation from CDA, the four samities in Chatto-Balihara worked together to establish a Peoples Organization (PO), a collective platform that has allowed them to make more informed decisions about their agricultural and environmental practices.

Through this collective effort, the villagers now grow paddy using organic farming techniques. The success of this initiative is a testament to the power of community-driven action in building resilience against climate change. The ability to produce healthy food, maintain land health, and adapt to changing environmental conditions has strengthened the community's capacity to withstand future challenges.

Environmental Impact and Long-Term Sustainability

The shift to vermin composting and organic agriculture has had a profound environmental impact in Chatto-Balihara. By reducing the use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides, the community has significantly lowered its carbon footprint. The organic matter returned to the soil through vermin composting has enhanced biodiversity, promoting the growth of beneficial organisms that contribute to a more balanced ecosystem.

Moreover, the practice of vermin composting has taught the villagers the importance of waste management. Organic waste, which was once discarded or burned, is now transformed into valuable compost. This practice not only reduces waste but also helps combat climate change by decreasing methane emissions from organic waste decomposition.

Looking Ahead: A Sustainable Future

The success of the Chatto-Balihara Peoples Organization demonstrates that environmental sustainability and climate resilience can be achieved through simple, community-driven solutions like vermin composting. The villagers' commitment to organic agriculture has transformed their community, making it more self-reliant and better equipped to face the challenges posed by climate change.

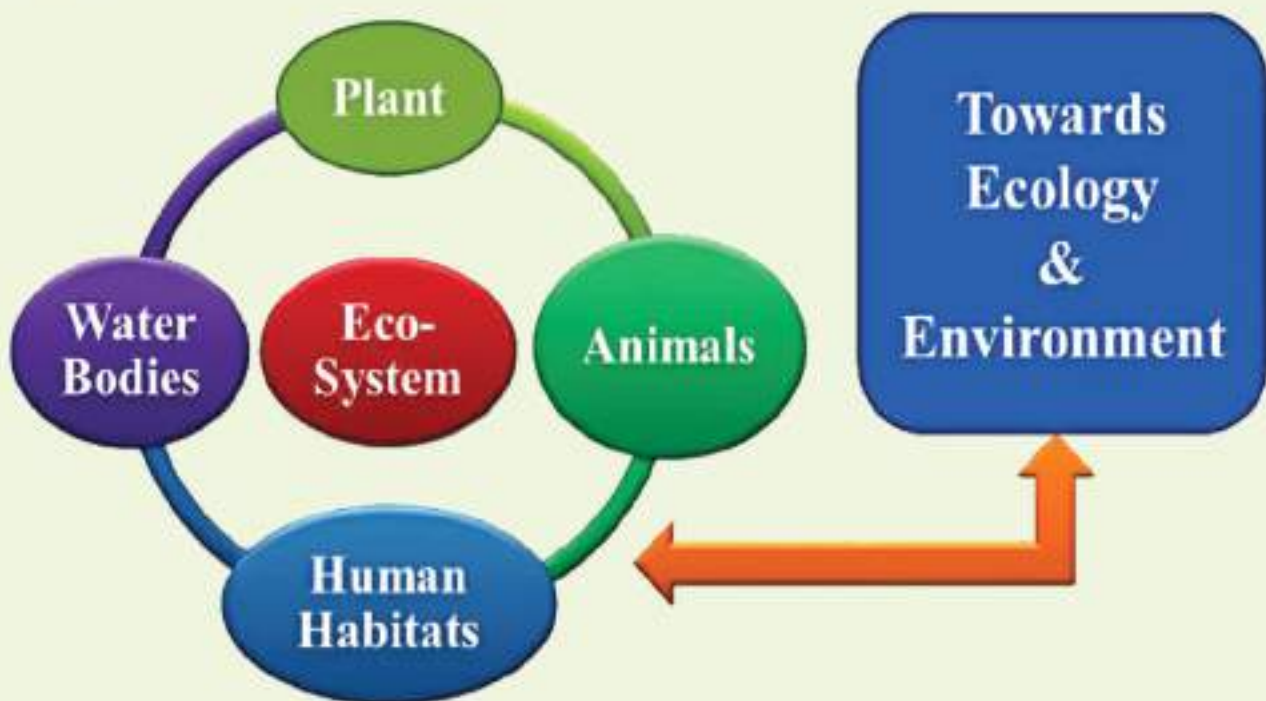
As the community continues to expand its organic farming practices, they serve as a model for other villages in the region. Their experience shows that with the right tools and collective action, it is possible to create a sustainable future—one where both the people and the environment can thrive.



Economic Empowerment and Livelihoods

- ✓ To enhance income-generating opportunities for the landless vulnerable, poor, and marginal peoples.
- ✓ Promoting skills Training, entrepreneurship development, and access to financial services to empower individuals and communities economically.

The Peoples Development Initiative (PDI) is a Socio-Economic, Environment and ecological program that aims to address poverty reduction, environmental resilience through the power shifting of village based Peoples Organization members along with safeguarding the Land facilitated by Community Development Association (CDA). PDI has been operating as a partnership program between Peoples Organization and CDA. While the CDA plays a facilitating role, the core of the program is driven by the active participation and self-managed by the Members of the Peoples Organizations. Such collaborative approach ensured that the program is tailored to the specific needs, strengths, and aspirations of the community leading to sustainable development outcomes. This participatory approach fosters a sense of ownership and responsibility among the community, which in turn enhances the long-term success and sustainability of the initiatives undertaken. The main idea behind PDI is to involve community members directly in the planning, implementation, and management of development initiatives ensured that the initiatives are relevant, sustainable, and reflective of the community needs and desires.



The active involvement of community members in the Peoples Development Initiative (PDI) transforms them from passive beneficiaries into active agents of change. By participating in all stages of the program, they contribute their insights, skills, and efforts, resulting in initiatives that

are tailored to their needs, sustainable over time, and deeply ingrained in the fabric of the community's development journey, their development goals. This participatory approach has been fostering rationales of responsibility and sustainability.



1500 Samities has been involved in Peoples Development Initiative (PDI)



Chapter: 5

Networking for Grassroots Democratization and Good Governance

Thousands of Voices against the Zero Landless Policy: Claiming Land Rights for Women

On March 5, 2024, the **Community Development Association (CDA)** took a bold stand against the government's **"Zero Landless Policy"** through the **Stand for Her Land (S4HL)** Campaign, organizing a influential mass gathering in Dinajpur city. This event drew an impressive crowd of approximately 5000 Women, many of whom were poor, landless disempowered women including indigenous, uniting in their demand for land rights and social justice.

The significance of this gathering extended beyond mere numbers; it was a manifestation of collective strength and resilience. Women from various regions of Bangladesh joined forces, underscoring the widespread discontent with policies that neglect their rights. The assembly was not just a protest; it was a declaration that women's empowerment hinges on their access to land and resources, a vital foundation for independence and security.

Prior to the event, S4HL conducted an in-depth study on the implications of the "Zero Landless Policy" and its impact on women, especially those from marginalized communities. This research culminated in a comprehensive paper that highlighted the urgent need for policy reform. At the gathering, members of the Coalition, along with national human rights activists and academics, passionately addressed the crowd, amplifying the call for action and solidarity. The most poignant moments of the event came from the grassroots women themselves. Their



courageous speeches echoed through the crowd, highlighting their struggles and aspirations for land rights and access to khas (government-owned) agricultural land. These women articulated their lived experiences, painting a vivid picture of the challenges they face under the current policy, which fails to acknowledge their rightful claim to land.

One of the rallying cries from the grassroots speakers was for the government to recognize that the "Zero Landless Policy" is not only unrealistic but detrimental to the empowerment of women. They proposed holding similar mass gatherings in every district, aiming to make their voices heard across the nation. This grassroots mobilization is critical for shifting power dynamics and ensuring that women are not only seen but heard in the corridors of power.

As the event concluded, it became evident that the fight for land rights is not merely about access to property; it is about dignity, agency, and the ability to shape one's future. Empowering women through land ownership fosters economic independence, enhances their role in decision-making, and strengthens communities as a whole.

This mass gathering was a pivotal moment, a clarion call for a collective movement toward gender equality and social justice. It reinforced the notion that when women rise together, they can challenge oppressive policies and reclaim their rights, ensuring that their voices resonate loudly in the fight for a fair and just society. Through continued advocacy and solidarity, women across Bangladesh are poised to redefine the landscape of land rights, ultimately transforming the narrative of empowerment and securing a future where they can thrive without the constraints of unjust policies.



STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF BANGLADESH LAND RIGHTS NETWORK (BLRN) AS A NATIONAL LAND COALITION

Introduction

Land is naturally universal property in the world. No person can deny the necessity of land in human life. In fact, we are originated from earth, we depend and move on it and we physically vanish into it. So, our interest in land is universal and it is one of the human rights. In fact, the protection of right to land implies the protection of the basic necessities, e.g., right to food, shelter and social security (Article 15, The Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh) the emancipation of the peasants and workers (Article 14), the rural development and agricultural revolution (Article 16) (Islam et al., 2015).

Bangladesh is located in the shore of the Bay of Bengal, stretches from 20°34' to 26°38' N and from 88°01' to 92°41' E (BBS). Geologically Bangladesh occupies a larger part of the Bengal Basin. Seventy-three percent of the population lives in rural areas. Agricultural land made up 70% of land area, while urban land accounted for between 8% and 20% (GOB data varies). The amount of land available for cultivation is declining, and 60% of Bangladesh's landowners cultivate one acre or less (World Bank 2019). One-fourth of the country's farmer families are still landless, reveals the preliminary report of Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) on Agriculture Census 2019. As per the report, some 40 lakh, out of 1.65 corers, farmer families are landless while some 91 lakh agricultural labourers and around 67.63 lakh households are involved in cultivating other's land, either on lease as tenant farmers or as sharecroppers (Hossain, 2019).

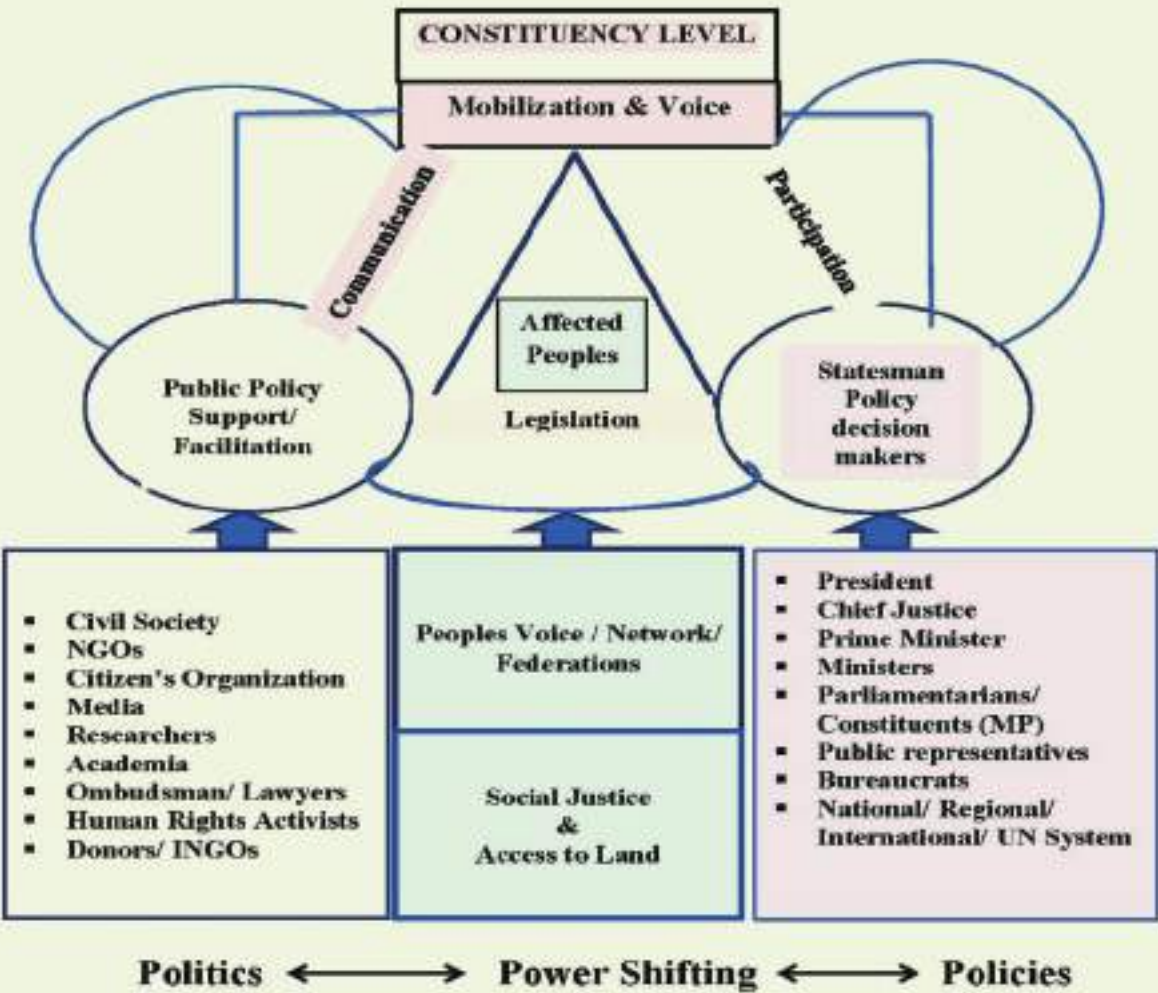
Moreover, Bangladesh is prone to annual flooding, with 80% of the country's land area within floodplains. The remaining area consists of hills (12%) and terraces (8%). High-intensity cropping techniques, soil and riverbank erosion, and loss of wetlands resulting from flood control, drainage and irrigation projects are causing substantial land degradation (BBS).

However, Land distribution in Bangladesh is highly unequal, where small and marginal farmers lack any meaningful ownership of land. The legal system is highly inefficient, as well as complicated bearing the legacy of the colonial era which means that a very small portion of small farmers and producers have their own land rights documents. Access to land or securing tenure rights to land is important for the land-dependent vulnerable communities in Bangladesh to overcome poverty. Recognizing this importance, SDG target 1.4 is set to ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources as well as access to basic services, ownership, and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance by 2030.

Following the decision made at COP 13 of the UNCCD, Bangladesh has reaffirmed its commitment to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) by 2030. Additionally, the country is committed to adopting inclusive processes at all levels to contribute to the objectives of various international commitments, such as CBD, UNFCCC, and REDD+, by updating National

Action Programs and implementing the Sustainable Development Agenda. This includes focusing on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 15, which emphasizes "Land for life," along with its specific target 15.3 to combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, and strive for a land degradation-neutral world by 2030.

People Centered Strategic Action



In 2024, the Asia Workplan for the International Land Coalition (ILC) underscores strategic priorities aimed at fortifying operations and governance in the region. The plan emphasizes the imperative to "Defend the Defenders" by revitalizing the Emergency Fund, focusing on digital security, and fostering partnerships to address shrinking democratic spaces, particularly in the context of land rights. The commitment to place Peoples Organizations (POs) at the center of ILC Asia's work is evident through constituency-based platforms and targeted efforts to enhance the role of youth, women, pastoralists, indigenous peoples, and smallholder farmers. The plan also underscores the recognition of women's land rights in National Land Coalition (NLC) countries, linking it to gender justice and leveraging experiences from initiatives funded by LANDESA. Additionally, a climate and nature flagship initiative aims to address land inequality,

emphasizing community involvement in climate action. These priorities align with ILC's overarching strategy, emphasizing a power shift and impactful indicators to secure land rights and address global challenges effectively.

ILC supports Peoples Organizations (POs)/CSOs to take a facilitating role at the national level, ensuring that the voices of Peoples Organizations (POs) lead the strategic vision and focus, responding to local priorities. This approach caters to the marginalized and disempowered, encompassing men and women, indigenous peoples, youth, pastoralists, and other oppressed groups, particularly those lacking access to land and other natural resources due to exclusion and inadequate agrarian laws and policies.

Background

In 2014, the Bangladesh Land Rights Network (BLRN) began its journey under the name "National Engagement Strategy (NES)," delineating a four-year plan. During this period, NES focused on six crucial areas aligned with the ten commitments of the International Land Coalition (ILC). As of 2022, the ILC embarked on developing a comprehensive decade-long strategy. The cumulative outcomes achieved from 2014 to 2022 are set to lay the groundwork for a robust networking platform in the form of the BLRN.

In February 2023, a workshop was held to devise the strategic plan for Bangladesh, titled —Plan for the new BLRN Strategy for Bangladesh: Realizing Land Governance for and with People at the Country Level 2022-2030. This workshop sought permission from the Bangladesh Government under the initiative "Strengthening Institutional Capacity of Bangladesh Land Rights Network (BLRN)" administratively supported by the BLRN's new host, the Community Development Association (CDA). Despite aiming to commence in July 2023, the initiative encountered a delay in government approval, consequently beginning in September 2023. Therefore, this annual report covers the period from September, 2023 to February 2024.

Annual Planned Activity

BLRN's activities include monthly Dhaka meetings for coordination, local mobilizations on land rights, a strategic plan workshop, an induction session in Dhaka, and a Dinajpur-based training program empowering Peoples Organizations for land rights advocacy through capacity building and aligned advocacy strategies. There are some planned activities throughout the year. Here is the list:

Workshop on Bangladesh Land Rights Network (BLRN) Three Years Strategic Plan (2024-2026)

The Workshop on Bangladesh Land Rights Network (BLRN) was held during February 7-8, 2024 at the NGO Forum Central Training Centre in Dhaka. On the first day, an opening session was conducted, during which introductory speeches were given by Mr. Asif Ahmed Chowdhury and Mr. Shah I Mobin Jinnah. The workshop also involved a context analysis, which identified various land-related problems, conflicts, issues, factors, and actors.

The findings of the context analysis were prioritized, such as the violation of land rights of landless individuals, the forced occupation and eviction of indigenous peoples land, and various projects leading to encroachment on indigenous land and marginalized communities.



Key Highlights:

Strategic priorities for 2024-2026

- ❖ **Women Land Rights:** Women in Bangladesh have limited opportunities to access and control over land and natural resources. Women constitute 72.6 percent of total working farmers in Bangladesh, even though they are not actually recognized as farmers. Because of their lack of formal recognition, they are owning households have formal title deeds and only four to five percent have effective control over land, particularly agricultural land.
- ❖ **Impact of climate change on farmers, landless, indigenous peoples among others marginalized peoples:** Bangladesh is expected to be among the worst-affected countries in the world if the dire predictions came to be true. In recent times, Bangladesh has experienced the devastating impacts of two major cyclones. Cyclone Amphan struck on May 20, 2020, followed by Cyclone Yaas on May 26, 2021, causing massive devastation to the coastal regions. Socio-economic factors, such as a high dependence on agriculture, population density, and poverty, further exacerbate the impacts of these climate-induced natural hazards. Climate risks present challenges to human health, life, livelihoods, well-being, land, energy, water and natural resources, and infrastructure. Ecosystems and biodiversity are expected to see losses and changes in range for many of the climate risks. Poor and marginalized groups, and women, as well as youth and those with disabilities are likely to suffer disproportionately in a changing climate – exacerbating existing inequalities. Adaptation and disaster risk reduction are urgent priorities in Bangladesh as the livelihoods and wellbeing of millions of people are threatened. Adaptation and methods for resilience feature planning and management of natural resources, land, and disaster preparedness and early warning systems with an emphasis on ecosystems, landscapes, and green infrastructure such as mangroves and wetlands.

- ❖ **Land and water grabbing including protecting Land and environmental rights Defenders:** A concerning trend is the increasing conversion of agricultural land into commercial and real estate ventures, often without proper scrutiny or policy guidelines and sometimes through coercive means. This directly affects the most vulnerable segments of society, leaving them with minimal recourse when their lands are acquired. This issue is expected to worsen due to widespread land grabbing by commercial entities, politically influential groups, and unplanned government acquisitions, such as allocating substantial land for industrial parks, military bases, nuclear power plants, export processing zones, and similar purposes, mostly at the expense of agricultural land.
- ❖ **Customary land rights and access to forest for Indigenous Peoples:** Indigenous Peoples, often referred to as ethnic minorities; small ethnic groups; tribes; tribals constitute a small minority in Bangladesh. Their livelihoods and cultural identity are deeply intertwined with the land. However, over the centuries, their traditional practices have not received adequate protection from the State and have been challenged by the absence of legal support, land commercialization, and privatization efforts. IPs face severe marginalization in the country, grappling with an identity crisis due to poverty, disconnection from their ancestral lands, and a profound sense of powerlessness regarding their collective future.

Strengthened Network Capacity for Transformation

The NLC/BLRN aims to bolster the capabilities of its members, partners, activists, and media in advocating for a pro-poor and inclusive land governance system. They plan to provide training on climate change, land administration, land laws, and women's land rights, equipping them with evidence-based policy skills for their advocacy efforts. The strategic objectives include:

- 1. Strategizing BLRN as collective platform for ILC members (both Peoples Organisation (PO) and national NGOs/ non Peoples Organisation and other CSOs partners :** Sustain the operation of NLC/BLRN as the National Advocacy Network by utilizing national, local, and regional land alliances and platforms that champion and advocate for a pro-poor land governance framework in Bangladesh.
- 2. Building Capacity of peoples ILC members (POs & non-POs and other CSOs partners:** Strengthen the capacity of NLC/BLRN members, network partners, civil society coalitions, and media to support a pro-poor and inclusive land governance approach.
- 3. Strengthening Land and Environmental Defenders, with a Focus on Women's Land Rights:** BLRN will prioritize enhancing the capacity of women land rights advocates and environmental defenders, improving data collection and utilization, and supporting initiatives related to LDN and the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan.
- 4. Influence:** Advocate for policy makers to enforce, implement, and incorporate measures from key laws and policies aimed at reducing or halting land, forest, and water grabbing in Bangladesh. This involves fostering regular consultations between the government and relevant stakeholders on various policy issues.
Subsequent activities included goal setting, identifying the vision, mission, and goal of the workshop, and analyzing challenges faced by women and youth in accessing and participating in

land issues. A stakeholder analysis was also conducted, along with a focus on strategic actions of BLRN's partner organizations to strengthen and sustain BLRN's activities.

The closing session involved participants expressing their views and expectations for the future, along with Mr. Shah I Mobin Jinnah's encouragement for collaboration and unity in addressing land-related issues. Additionally, a follow-up training on the strategy of Peoples Organization for People Centered Advocacy towards Ensuring Access to Land Rights was announced.

In summary, the workshop addressed key land-related challenges and conflicts and emphasized the importance of stakeholder engagement, strategic planning, and grassroots-level empowerment in ensuring access to land rights. Participants expressed optimism towards creating a strong network and developing a comprehensive strategic plan to enhance land rights advocacy.

Training-Workshop on Strategy of Peoples Organization for People-Centered Advocacy towards Ensuring Access to Land Rights

Venue: Jon-Sreejon Institute, Mukundapur, Rampur, Kaharole, Dinajpur, Bangladesh

Duration: 10-13 December 2023 (4 days)

Organizer: Bangladesh Land Rights Network (BLRN), a National Land Coalition comprised of six National NGOs/CSOs under the International Land Coalition (ILC).



Introduction:

The Bangladesh Land Rights Network (BLRN) aims to empower grassroots people without access to land rights due to discriminatory policies. The workshop, hosted by CDA, focuses on strengthening Peoples Organizations (POs) and equipping community workers with skills in Connect, Mobilize, and Influence techniques for effective advocacy.

Goal:

Equip participants with skills and capacity to strengthen Peoples Organization (PO) for influencing policy issues through people-centered advocacy mobilization.

Objectives of the Course:

- ✓ Clarify the concepts of Peoples, Public, Citizens & Republic in strengthening POs at the community to constituency level.
- ✓ Build capacity on POs steps in dealing with policy issues and shifting power to people, focusing on land rights and natural resources.
- ✓ Enhance advocacy strategies and techniques, aligning with legislation, UN charters, Human Rights declarations, SDGs, and ILC's 10 commitments.

Content of Training Workshop:

- ✓ Basic concepts of People, Public, Republic, and Citizenship.
- ✓ Strategy building for POs.
- ✓ Mobilization at the constituency level for policy change and legislation reform.
- ✓ Capacity development for PO intervention plans.
- ✓ Process of PO institution building & the steps of Parallelogram.
- ✓ Issue identification and conflict sensitivity analysis.
- ✓ Effective communication strategies for advocacy and land rights establishment.
- ✓ Stakeholder engagement mobilization for people-centered advocacy on Land Rights.
- ✓ BLRN's program strategies in Bangladesh for Land Rights and Agrarian Reforms.

World Social Forum 2024

The 16th edition of the World Social Forum (WSF) held from 15th to 19th February 2024 in Kathmandu, Nepal, gathered over 50,000 participants from 98 countries, representing more than 1400 organizations. The theme, "Another World Now!", encapsulated the WSF's vision of fostering an equitable and sustainable future.

Key Highlights:

- ✓ **Long March Gandhi to Buddha:** A solidarity march involving 400 grassroots activists from South Asia symbolized unity in advocating for land rights. The journey highlighted the struggles of Indigenous Peoples, Dalits, Women, and Youth, emphasizing the role of Women in Land movements.
- ✓ **The Illusion of Abundance - A Movie Screening:** This screening shed light on the challenges faced by environmental defenders globally, focusing on activists confronting powerful corporations for environmental justice. Discussions afterward addressed the protection of land and environmental defenders.
- ✓ **Round Table on Global Climate Investment and Local Tenure Security:** The event explored the link between climate finance and land tenure security. Discussions emphasized sustainable development practices, the challenges faced by marginalized communities, and strategies to promote equitable climate investment.



- ✓ **Strengthening Land Rights to Tackle Global Crises:** This event raised awareness about the impact of large-scale commercial agriculture on Indigenous Peoples, pastoralists, and smallholder farmers. It stressed the importance of secure land tenure rights in protecting livelihoods and food systems.
- ✓ **Women's Land Rights:** Focused on the intersection of land rights, gender equality, and climate justice. The event discussed the disproportionate impact of climate change on women, emphasizing the role of land rights in reducing economic inequality and promoting gender justice.

The WSF 2024 encompassed diverse discussions on economic inequality, social justice, climate justice, and sustainable development, among other pressing global issues. The event concluded with 60 organizations worldwide pledging collaboration towards a fairer and more just world.



Chapter: 6

External Evaluation

External Evaluation of CDA-SOLAR Program supported by Bread for the World, Germany

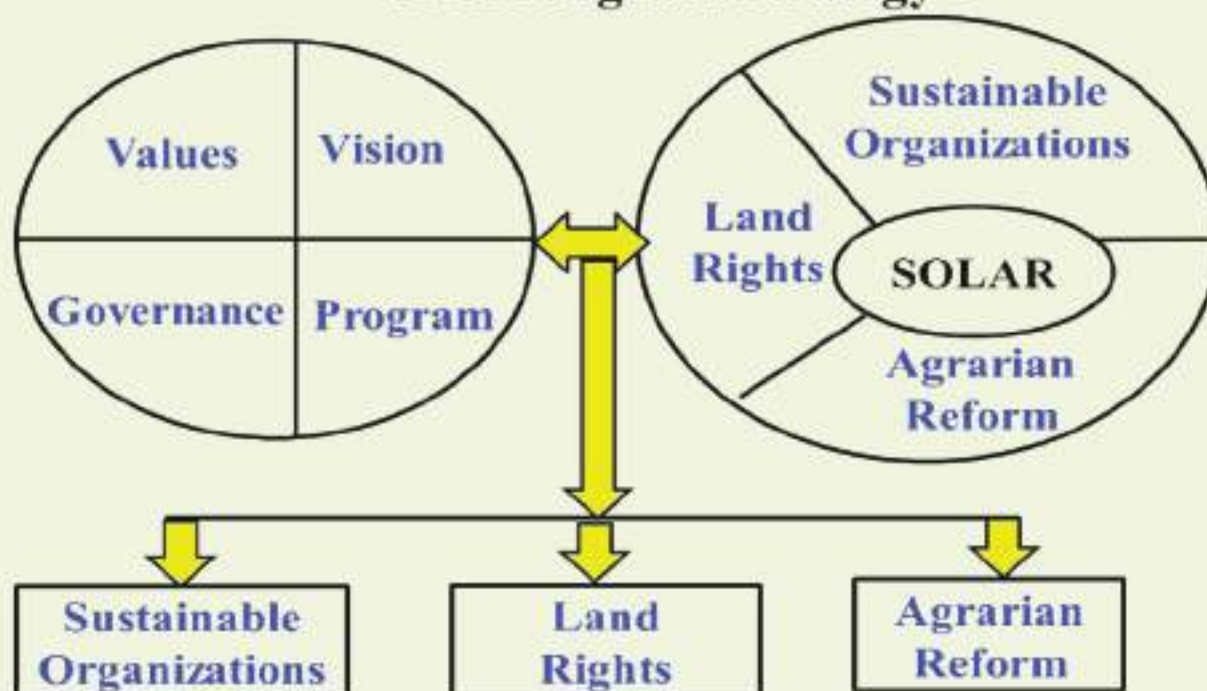
Period: January 20- February 21, 2024

Community Development Association (CDA) implemented Program as titled Sustainable Organization for Land Rights and Agrarian Reform (SOLAR) requiring support considering the adverse situations of the region from Bread for the World, Germany from 2010 to continue with the ICESC rights and civil and political rights.

Objectives of the Evaluation:

The evaluation intends to assess achievements and results of earlier phases to till. Last phase and current phase objectives and indicators are mentioned for an overall impression about the program. CDA working with village based Peoples Organizational model for community development since 2010, at this stage CDA wanted to assess certain dimensions and impacts of the program over the targeted community and substantial results which this program has been able to achieve so far. Based on the current status CDA also intend to learn about short coming/laggings of the overall process and innovative working scope to ensure sustainability of the achievements. However, CDA and the donor organization BftW have decided to undertake the evaluation as part of the Planning-Monitoring-Evaluation System of the program. This evaluation have been conducted by external consultants at this stage to assess the achievements of the set project objectives, relevance of strategies and interventions and identify the problems/issues those need attention and future direction etc.

CDA Program Strategy



Specific Objectives:

- Evaluate the project from a Human Rights perspective, focusing on the areas of relevance, effectiveness, and efficiency in improving the livelihoods of the target community. This assessment will serve as a crucial measure of the program's alignment with Human Rights principles.
- To identify gaps, challenges, and opportunities within the project's implementation and performance, focusing on areas where improvements can be made, and where the program can expand its influence. This includes pinpointing any challenges or obstacles that have hindered the program's effectiveness in addressing the needs of the community.
- Conduct a comprehensive assessment of the program's overall achievements from its inception, encompassing all previous phases to the present phase. This holistic approach will provide a historical context for understanding the project's evolution and impact.
- To provide strategic insights that informs the program's future direction and the development of targeted interventions. This includes pinpointing areas of strength, weakness, and emerging trends that deserve attention.
- To promote a culture of learning and innovation within the project team, ensuring that lessons learned are systematically incorporated into program strategies and activities.
- To assess the project's sustainability and identify areas where sustainability can be enhanced, ensuring that the program's impact endures beyond its current phases.
- Propose initiatives and strategic actions that should be undertaken to further advance the development and impact of Peoples Organizations. These initiatives should be forward-looking, aimed at addressing emerging challenges, and ensuring the sustainability of achievements.

Evaluation consultants:

- Shayamal Kumar Saha (Ph.D.)**, Team lead/Lead Consultant. Independent International Consultant. Dhaka-Bangladesh & Manila, Philippines. Email: shayamalsaha@gmail.com
- Md. Rajab Ali**, Sustainable Peoples organization development and livelihood promotion Expert, Rangpur, Bangladesh. Email: mdrajabali@yahoo.com
- Ms. Selina Akhter Keya**: Human Rights, Gender and Inclusion Expert, Dhaka, Bangladesh. Email: writekeya@gmail.com
- H.M. Simon**, Survey and Statistical Data Processing Consultant, Dhaka, Bangladesh.



Chapter: 7

**CDA's Central Training
&
ICT Center**

JONO-SREEJON INSTITUTE (JSI)

CDA Central Training Centre, namely the Jono Sreejon Institute (JSI), is situated in the valley of the Himalayas, near by the river Dhapa. The distance of the training center is 25 km from Dinajpur town. The campus is designed around a beautiful natural environment. Located in the northwest part of Bangladesh.

The Training Centre provides a facility for grassroots women and men from the villages, staff and participants from various national and international Non-Government Organizations to take part in and facilitate trainings, conferences and special events. The Training Centre provides institutional support to different organizations and associations, and contributes to the sustainability of CDA. The CDA Central Training Centre is a place where people come to share and exchange ideas and to learn. The environment is gender-friendly and in this place, people with Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Buddhist, Aboriginal or other beliefs can all feel welcome, and live in communal harmony. The total campus is more than 4 acres of land, and it provides residential facilities for 120 women and men. Guests can enjoy food, lodging, cultural activities, training or meetings within a congenial and secure atmosphere.

Local Culture:

In addition to natural beauty, the region is rich in culture and historical heritage, including peasant struggles. There are many tribal (aboriginal/adibashi) people in the area. The center is only 5 minutes away from the historical Kantanagar (Kantaji's) Temple, Nayabad Mosque and small Museum. It is not far from Dinajpur's Raj Bari Compound, and it is close to significant burial sites of freedom fighters that fought for the independence of Bangladesh, and of religious martyrs.



Residential Facilities:

- 16 Double rooms (2 beds) with attached bath.
- 19 Triple rooms (3 beds) 10 with attached bath.
- 5 semi-VIP rooms with attached bath large groups may use an additional staff dormitory. There are both local and western-style commodes. Special accessible facilities for people who use wheel chairs are available. People with disabilities are welcome at the Training Centre.

ICT support:

- All time Wi-Fi connection.
- Computer facilities in JSI-ICT center.

Dining and Refreshments:

The Training Centre provides nutritious food and refreshments for guests, which includes seasonal fruits and vegetables cultivated in local villagers. The large dining hall offers a self-service system. 60 people can dine comfortably at the same time. The Centre has a regular menu. Guests may contract for different food menus or special diets. Safe drinking water is available.



Technology, Innovation and Research

Explore the use of digital platforms, e-learning, and mobile-based solutions to improve access to information, services, and promote digital inclusion among marginalized communities

CDA recognize the transformative potential of technology, innovation, and research in advancing the well-being of marginalized communities. In line with commitment to harnessing the power of technology for social wellbeing, CDA has actively explored the use of digital platforms, e-learning, and mobile-based solutions to improve access to information, services, and promote digital inclusion among marginalized communities.

Through innovative approaches and partnerships with POs, CDA has leveraged digital platforms to bridge the information gap and enhance access to essential services for marginalized communities. CDA have developed and implemented e-learning initiatives to provide technical educational opportunities to individuals who lack access to traditional educational resources.



420 disadvantaged and marginalized Youth has completed IT Training and they are now working with different sectors in their localities.

CDA is committed to continuing its efforts in technology, innovation, and research, with a focus on maximizing the impact of digital solutions in addressing social and economic challenges. CDA will continue to collaborate with partners, stakeholders, and experts to explore new opportunities, pilot innovative approaches, and drive positive change for marginalized communities through the use of technology and research-driven interventions. Moving forward, CDA remains dedicated to harnessing the power of technology and innovation to create a more equitable and inclusive society, where all individuals have access to the tools, resources, and opportunities they need to thrive.

[illegible]

Comments from the Treasurer

Since its inception, CDA has consistently worked to uphold its transparent image, rooted in the principles of learning by doing, while fostering organizational growth through the practice of bottom-up participatory management. CDA's commitment to strengthening institutional and financial delivery mechanisms has been guided by international standards, as verified by both internal and external audits.



For the period from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, all receipts, payments, and financial record-keeping have been aligned with the necessary financial manuals and thoroughly audited by the esteemed auditing firms M/S ACNABIN, Chartered Accountants, Dhaka, and M/S Rahman Mustafiz & Co, Chartered Accountants, Dhaka. These audits have provided a detailed financial report, outlining the opening cash balance, income received, expenses incurred, and the closing cash balance, all in accordance with the Annual Plan.

The auditing firms have also submitted their management reports with valuable recommendations to enhance the efficiency of our Finance Department. We extend our gratitude to our key donor, Bread for the World-Germany, whose unwavering financial support has been instrumental in implementing the People-Centered Land Governance Program, specifically the "Sustainable Organization for Land Rights and Agrarian Reform (SOLAR)" initiative in northwestern Bangladesh. Additionally, we are grateful to our other national and global partners—ILC-IFAD, IIW-FIMI, ANGOC, NIWANO Peace Foundation (Japan), and ALRD—whose financial support, knowledge-sharing, and technical expertise have been crucial in ensuring the success of our activities during this reporting period.

Lastly, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the members of the General Board and Executive Committee (EC) of CDA for their continued support and facilitation. My appreciation also goes to the Finance Department staff for their diligent management and accountability, and to the Executive Director and the entire CDA team, including both internal and external auditors, for their exceptional work in maintaining the integrity and accuracy of our financial reporting.

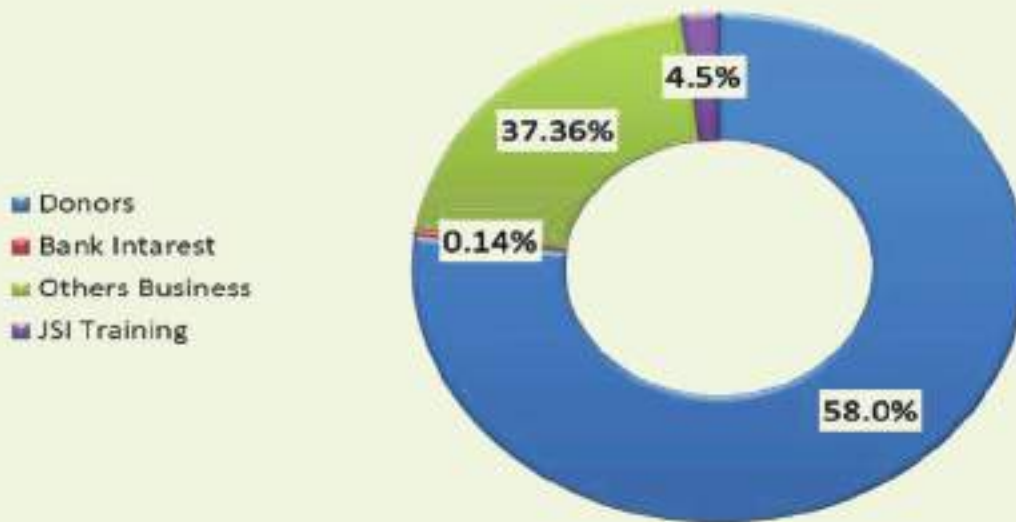
Best Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MD. MOSTAQUE HOSSAIN CHOWDHURY', written in a fluid, cursive style.

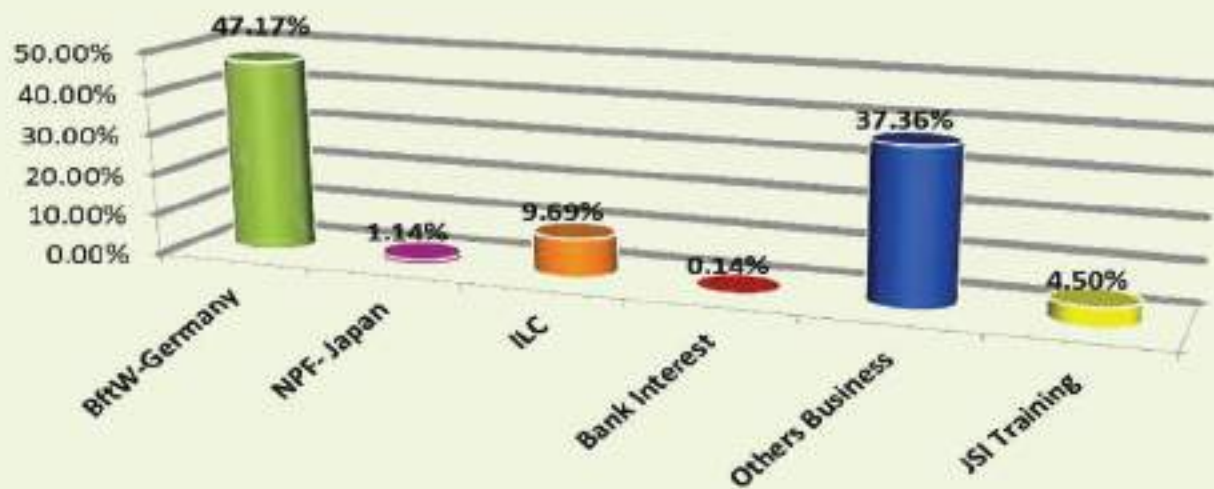
MD. MOSTAQUE HOSSAIN CHOWDHURY
Treasurer, CDA

CDA's Financial Part

Community Development Association (CDA)
Consolidated Statement of Source of Fund
For The Year Ended June-30, 2024



Community Development Association (CDA)
Consolidated Statement of Source of Fund
For The Year Ended June-30, 2024



General Board Members of CDA: 2023-2024

 Professor Dr. Halida Hanum Akhter (PhD) Researcher: Harvard University, Health Scientist & Development/ Health Activist	 Professor Dr. Rahman Nasir Uddin (PhD) Anthropologist-Chittagong University, Development/ HR Activist	 Professor Dr. Eshani Chakraborty (PhD) Department of History, Dhaka University, Women Activist	 Professor Dr. Saiful Huda (PhD) Head of Department Ag. Extension, HSTU, Agriculture Scientist, Development/ HR Activist	 Dr. Chowdhury Mosaddequi Isdani General Secretary of Eye-Hospital, Dinajpur, Development/ Health Activist
 Dr. I.F.M. Shahidul Islam Khan Eye Specialist, Freedom Fighter, Cultural/ Health Activist	 Advocate Md. Azizul Islam Lawyer & Development/ HR Activist	 Rashida Khatun Founding Member, Women Activist, Development Practitioner	 Shah I Mobin Jinnah Founder, Executive Director/CEO/ Member- Secretary, Development/HR Activist	 Md. Monowarul Islam Farmer & Development/ HR Activist
 Md. Mostaque Hossain Chowdhury Banker, Development/ HR Activist	 Shelat-E-Jahan Banker, Development/ Cultural Activist	 Md. Moshi-Ur-Rahman Ex. Chief Engineer (Water Board), Development & Education Activist	 Syeeda Chowdhury Development/ Women Activist	 Advocate. Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury Income Tax Lawyer, Development/HR Activist
 Shah Md. Abdul Kayyum Freedom Fighter, Development/ Social Activist	 Md. Samsul Karim Ex-Lecturer-Sociology, Development/ HR Activist	 Selina Begum Lecturer-Philosophy, Women Activist	 Md. Abed Ali Farmer & Development/ HR Activist	 Md. Khorshad Alam Farmer & Development/ HR Activist
 Professor Dr. Mohammad Saiful Alam Community Medicine Specialist, Health Activist	 Meherun Nessa Chabi Development / Women Activist			

Executive Committee of CDA: 2023-2024



ADVOCATE MD. AZIZUL ISLAM
Chairperson



MD. MONOWARUL ISLAM
Vice-Chairperson



SHAH I MOBIN JINNAH
Founder, Member Secretary/Executive Director



**MD. MOSTAQUE HOSSAIN
CHOWDHURY**
Treasurer



RASHIDA KHATUN
Founding Member



PROFESSOR DR. SAIFUL HUDA (Phd)
Member



SELINA BEGUM
Member



SHEFAT- E- JAHAN
Member

Desk wise Role and Responsibilities

Field Operation Desk	
Goal	Objective
Ensured efficient and effective implementation of CDA's projects and services at the community level.	Coordinating and managing field-level activities, ensuring alignment with organizational goals, while addressing community needs and fostering local participation.
Responsibilities	
✓ Facilitate day-to-day field operations and program delivery. ✓ Ensure proper execution of project activities according to plans. ✓ Facilitate Peoples Organizations (POs) by the field staff and communicate with Tier based Leaders and stakeholders, and coordinate with the central office team. ✓ Monitor field progress and resolve operational challenges. ✓ Collect field data and reports for program evaluation and adaptation.	

Planning Monitoring, Evaluation and System (PMES) Desk	
Goal	Objective
Ensured effective implementation, continuous improvement, and impact of CDA's programs and initiatives through systematic planning, monitoring, and evaluation processes and services at the community level.	To develop, track, and assess program plans, measure performance, and ensure accountability while supporting data-driven decision-making and organizational learning.
Responsibilities	
✓ Develop strategic plans and frameworks for programs. ✓ Monitor program activities, outputs, and outcomes. ✓ Conduct evaluations to assess impact and effectiveness. ✓ Ensure data collection, analysis, and reporting systems are in place. ✓ Support organizational learning and adaptation based on findings.	

Management Information (MIS) Desk	
Goal	Objective
Systemized Computerization organizational Management System.	✓ Ensuring qualitative program activities with decision making. ✓ Organizing knowledge based information. ✓ Collect short/ mid/ long-term operational feedback. ✓ Keep computer base program data and results.
Responsibilities	
✓ Design and maintain Program base all technical reporting templates (FIS/MIS/Performance/ Planning/General Data) Offline- Online base. ✓ Compile Statistical reports. ✓ Technological Knowledge share for better technical performance.	

Training Desk	
Goal	Objective
HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT- Equipped Effective & Efficient manpower, Creativeness and Innovativeness, Increase productivity, Analytical Knowledge, Skill personnel, Value practitioners and Positive attitude.	✓ To strengthen capacity program participant as well as staff members. ✓ To promote the knowledge, skills & attitude according to program needs. ✓ To ensure the information to rights holder as well as duty bearer about their accountabilities. ✓ To facilitate practice the rights based responsibilities with values and ensure access to land and others Govt. services.
Responsibilities	
✓ Training Needs Assessment (TNA) Planning (action plan & scheduling). ✓ Strategies setting. ✓ Curriculum / Module design. (Goal & objectives settings, Content & methodologies selection, Lesson/ session plan development, Materials development etc.). ✓ Implementing through participatory methodologies (planning. organizing & facilitating). ✓ Documentation, reporting and publication. ✓ Follow-up, monitoring and evaluation. ✓ Review & re-planning	

Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Desk	
Goal	Objective
A Dynamic World Class ICT Centre powering Creativity & Innovation.	✓ ICT Development in rural area in Northern part of Bangladesh. ✓ ICT training for developing ICT skill of rural poor people. ✓ Facilitate rural landless people with the help of ICT Network. ✓ Aware & Facilitate poor agrarian people how to get agro-based service and facilities from government or any other parties with the help of ICT. ✓ Available ICT Service and support to the rural poor people. ✓ To develop advancement of ICT within CDA to facilitate sustainable development in lights of Eradication of poverty and hunger along with Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, Environmental Sustainability, Education, Global partnership and Health.

Responsibilities
✓ Designing & develop new ICT System. ✓ Regular need base Computer activities short session ✓ Keep up to date records of CDA computers, video camera, multimedia, digital cameras, laptops and other ICT related equipment's/ instruments. ✓ Provide Technical (Hardware and Software) support for betterment of CDA's Computer system & Networks. ✓ Maintenance of computer infrastructure and the diagnosis and resolution of technical problems and issues. ✓ Ensure video and pictorial documentation of sufferings of the poor, deprived and marginal peoples in lights of MDGs and disseminate through website and other related opportunities. ✓ Ensure video and pictorial documentation of CDA's program project achievements and events organize by the CDA's PO members. ✓ Always up to date the news/ events CDA's website, Social network, Data bank. ✓ PO-Members Codifying/Database. ✓ Establishing linkage with national and international level organizations.

Goal	Objective
CDA's Publication & Documentation (P&D) Desk is responsible to materialize the all possible contextual facts, issues, process of advocacy & success stores/models under the CDA's program and design, prepare and published informative, communicative, visualize learning content materials for documentation and for the publication.	✓ To promot public awareness according to the CDA's policies based. ✓ To documenting advocacy based issues, events for future references. ✓ To facilitated research activities, awareness buildup training and others sectorial department.

Responsibilities
✓ Visit the CDA's working area's field to develop quality documentations, stories, case studies on positive changes in peoples lives throughout the project/program implementation. ✓ Design awareness & engagement based publication or advocacy materials like: poster/leaflet/brochure/banner/annual reports etc. & publish in different channels for campaign also prepare different technical tools/format for data collection. ✓ Develop, edit & finalize press release/memorandum/ reports based on organization activities & disseminate into different media. Also facilitate to prepare dummy on CDA fortnightly & quarterly magazine: Jono-chesta, CDA Barta. ✓ Monitor Media Channel and preserve paper cutting or necessary information for documentation. ✓ CDA's website & social media updating in regular basis through CDA's different events/ activities. ✓ Taken video and pictorial documentation of CDA's program project achievements and events. ✓ Facilitate & documentation training/workshops/seminars organized by CDA or any other stakeholders.

Jonochesta Desk	
Goal	Objective
Establishing a society based on justice through the land rights & agrarian reform by the efforts of the rural people.	✓ Formulating public policies on land rights and agrarian reforms. ✓ Publishing news under the self-management & expressing the emotions and demands of the rural poor people in their own voice.
Responsibilities	
✓ Visit the CDA's working area's field to develop quality documentations, stories, case studies on positive changes in people's lives throughout the project/program implementation. ✓ Design awareness & engagement based publication or advocacy materials like: poster/leaflet/brochure/banner/annual reports etc. & publish in different channels for campaign also prepare different technical tools/format for data collection. ✓ Develop, edit & finalize press release/memorandum/ reports based on organization activities & disseminate into different media. Also facilitate to prepare dummy on CDA fortnightly & quarterly magazine: Jono-chesta, CDA Barta. ✓ Monitor and preserve paper cutting or necessary information for documentation. ✓ CDA's website & social media updating in regular basis through CDA's different events/ activities. ✓ Taken video and pictorial documentation of CDA's program project achievements and events. ✓ Facilitate & documentation training/workshops/seminars organized by CDA or any other stakeholders.	

Differently able Desk	
Goal	Objective
Established Fundamental Human Rights	✓ Advocacy for access in land and natural resources for disable peoples. ✓ Advocacy to ensure government Support-services.
Responsibilities	
✓ Report Development & Documentation. ✓ Conduct Federation Meeting. ✓ Communication, Coordination, Facilitated to Issue based advocacy. ✓ Case study & Day observation. ✓ Participation of Training-workshop, Meeting & Seminar.	

Agrarian Desk

Goal	Objective
Promoted sustainable Bio-Village development and improve the livelihoods of rural Landless and marginal peasants through innovative farming practices and resource management.	To enhance agricultural productivity, ensure food security, and empower marginalized farmers by providing technical support, resources, and advocacy for land rights with Agro Ecology.
Responsibilities	
✓ Promote sustainable farming techniques and climate-resilient agriculture. ✓ Provide training and resources to improve crop yields and farm management. ✓ Facilitate people centered advocacy strategy for land rights and agrarian reform, particularly for marginal peasants and landless farmers. ✓ Facilitate access to markets, inputs, and financial services for marginal farmers. ✓ Support community-based agricultural initiatives and cooperatives.	

Legal Aid Desk

Goal	Objective
Released Poor landless Land Rights Defenders.	✓ Facilitating to recover Khas land from land grabbers; ✓ Encountering frequent false, fake and fabricated cases upon landless; ✓ Support land Rights defenders & activists; ✓ Legal advice & literacy.
Responsibilities	
✓ CDA legal Aid Desk coordinated with districts Panel lawyers. ✓ Look after the progression of the running cases; ✓ Advice the victims what to be done; ✓ Presence in time of hearing at court premises; ✓ Advocate bill checking.	

Women Empowerment, Gender, and Development Desk

Goal	Objective
Enhanced women's empowerment, promotes gender equality, and ensures inclusive development across all CDA programs.	To design and implement initiatives that address gender disparities, support women's rights, and foster their social, economic, and political empowerment.
Responsibilities	
✓ Develop and implement gender-responsive programs and policies. ✓ Promote women's leadership and participation in decision-making. ✓ Address issues like gender-based violence, discrimination, and inequality. ✓ Provide training and support for women's economic empowerment. ✓ Monitor and ensure gender integration in all CDA activities and projects.	

Finance and Administration Desk

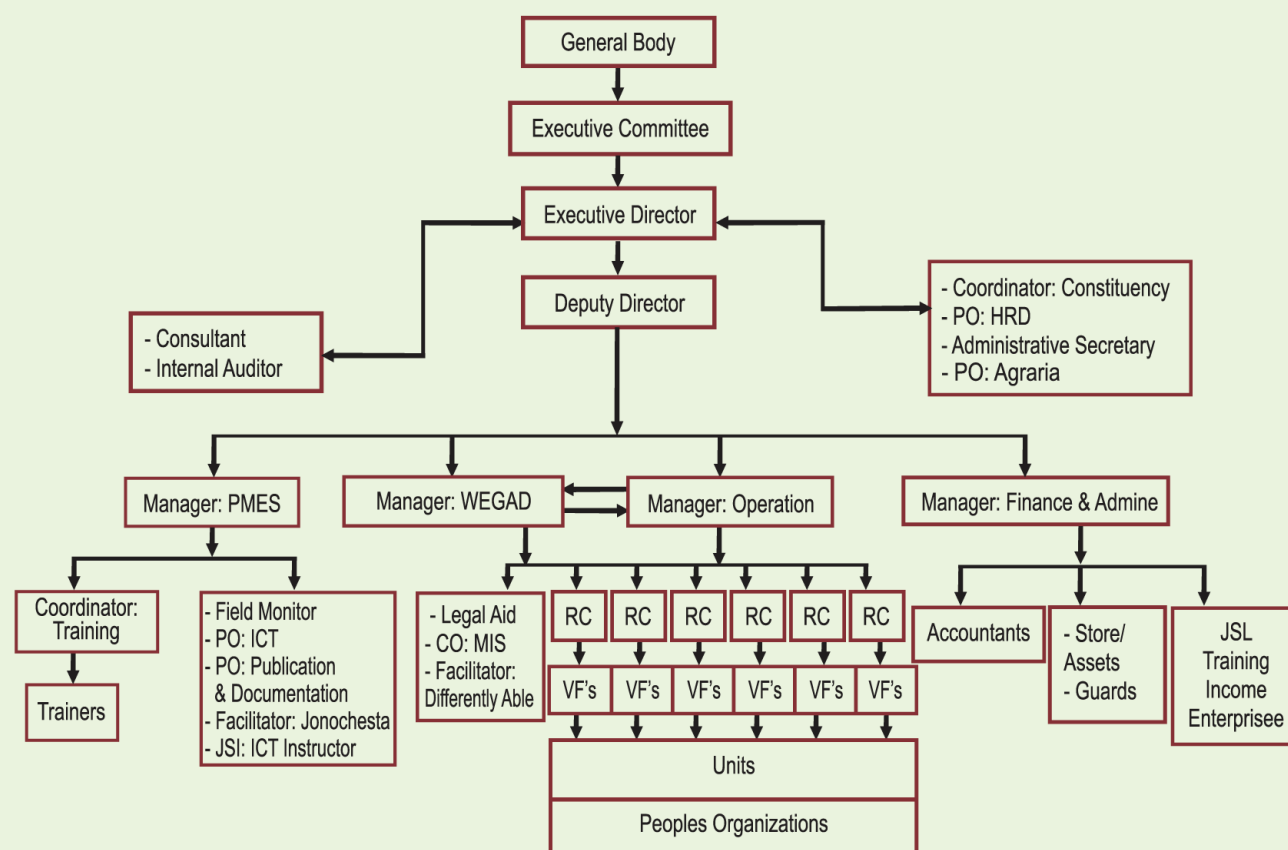
Goal	Objective
Ensured transparent financial management, resource optimization, and smooth administrative functioning for organizational sustainability.	To manage budgets, maintain financial accountability, and support administrative services that enable effective program implementation.
Responsibilities	
✓ Manage budgeting, accounting, and financial reporting. ✓ Ensure compliance with financial policies and donor requirements. ✓ Oversee administrative tasks, logistics, and procurement. ✓ Staff recruitment, HR management, and payroll. ✓ Maintain accurate financial records and internal controls.	

Internal Auditing Desk

Goal	Objective
Ensured the organization's financial integrity, operational efficiency, and compliance with internal policies, donor requirements, and legal regulations. This includes evaluating risk management practices, internal controls, and governance processes, identifying areas of improvement, and providing recommendations to enhance accountability, transparency, and the effective use of resources to achieve the organization's mission.	To ensure financial accuracy, compliance, and effective use of resources.
Responsibilities	
✓ Evaluate the organization's internal control systems to ensure they are functioning effectively. ✓ Identify potential risks in the organization and audit whether management is following appropriate methods to mitigate them. ✓ Verify the accuracy of financial data and accounting records to identify any discrepancies or errors. ✓ Review the efficiency of management and operational processes to ensure the organization is meeting its goals and objectives. ✓ Detect any fraud or irregularities within the organization and provide recommendations for prevention. ✓ Offer suggestions and recommendations to improve processes and procedures for more efficient operations. ✓ Prepare and present audit reports to management or the board, highlighting any issues, weaknesses, and proposed solutions.	

Human Resource Development Desk	
Goal	Objective
Create & maintain a highly qualified, professional, diverse and responsive workforce.	To Develop strong relationship among all staff of the organization and identifying and analyzing knowledge & skills of the potential staff for strengthening Organization Development by Human Resource Management to input Peoples Organization ensure the effective and efficient use of the project/organization resources and will closely work with the POs management to build functional relationship and regular liaison with all stakeholders.
Responsibilities	
✓ Planning documentation & Policies in the organization ✓ Capacity building of HRD, Linkage & Reporting, Special assignment by Management	

CDA's Organogram



ANNUAL REPORT

2023-2024



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (CDA)

Address: House: 51, Block: 01
Upa-Sahor, Dinajpur
Bangladesh.

Phone : +8802589921428
E-mail : edcda@gmail.com
Website : www.cdalpo.org
Social Media : facebook.com/cdadinaajpur