

# Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)

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Resilient Homestead and Livelihood Support to the  
Vulnerable Coastal People of Bangladesh (RHL)

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)

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## **Annex-7: Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)**

### **1.0 Introduction**

Bangladesh is recognized as one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change in the world. This is mainly due to the physical and socio-economic characteristics of the country. Existing poverty situation compounded by COVID-19 pandemic creates new challenges for maintaining existing growth of the country and on the other hand, climate change puts extra pressure by affecting lives and livelihoods of the rural vulnerable communities. The government of Bangladesh has set its own targets for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and accordingly prepared strategies and action plans including 8th five year plan, Delta Plan 2100, Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan, and Perspective Plan 2041. These plans have incorporated climate change as one of the major challenges towards achieving the SDGs. The Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) has been working as a national level accredited entity to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to support the government in addressing climate change issues in addition to its core business (rural employment generation, enterprise development, capacity building, and other social development activities). To ensure sustainability of its activities, PKSF has adopted Environment and Social Management Framework (ESMF). One of the requirements of the ESMF is to analyze relevant stakeholders who will be directly or indirectly involved during implementation of the project. Hence, a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) is required to engage various stakeholders systematically in the project implementation and monitoring process. This will ensure accountability as well as increase efficiency of the project interventions. This SEP is prepared as part of the project on “Resilient Homestead and Livelihood Support to the Vulnerable Coastal People of Bangladesh (RHL)”.

### **2.0 Brief description of the project**

Considering the vulnerability to climate change of the coastal people of Bangladesh, PKSF has decided to submit the project proposal to GCF on “Resilient homestead and livelihood support to the vulnerable coastal people of Bangladesh (RHL).” A brief description of the proposed project is presented below.

The primary goal of the project is to develop climate-adaptive coastal communities in Bangladesh through the adoption of climate-resilient housing and livelihood technologies.. The project will achieve the following components to meet the primary goal.

1. Decreased risk of loss of assets and lives from extreme weather events,
2. Increased livelihood resilience to SLR/storm surge and salinity and
3. Improved climate planning and implementation by communities and local level institutions.

The components are described below.

#### ***Component 1: Decreased risk of loss of assets and lives from extreme weather events***

Studies have found that more than three-fourths of households in coastal areas are vulnerable to sea level rise, salinity intrusion, cyclone and storm surge, and coastal flooding due to perishable materials. To sustain livelihood, the proposed project will provide support to construct climate-resilient housing. The concept of climate resilient housing under the project includes raising homesteads plinth above flood or tidal surge level, constructing and/or reconstructing houses with concrete pillars that are resilient to climate change and associated shocks (i.e. cyclone, storm surge, tidal surge, coastal flooding etc.), construction of climate resilient sanitary latrines, rainwater harvesting system, homestead gardening system, and tree plantation around the homestead area. Resilient housing is very important for building

resilience of the affected community; because they have to spend much of their income in repairing their houses each year during post-monsoon period.

### ***Component 2: Increased livelihood resilience to SLR/storm surge and salinity***

A large portion of the coastal population is highly exposed to climate change impacts due to increased sea level rise, salinity in water and soil, intensity of cyclones and coastal flooding. These pose a significant threat to agriculture, brackish aquaculture, and open water fishing. A recent study by UNDP shows that 16 and 35 per cent of those living in Khulna and Satkhira are extremely poor, whereas the national average is 12.9 per cent. Gender inequality prevails in these districts through various societal and cultural norms that shape women's day-to-day activities as well as their capacity to adapt to climate change. For example, women have less decision-making power within the household and the workplace, and are expected to manage the household and care for the family. Compounding these factors, climate change aggravates the burden of unpaid care work, creating a cycle which undermines their climate change resilient livelihood.

The proposed project will implement goat/sheep rearing in slatted houses, fruit-fish-fiber model including crab hatchery and farming, homestead vegetable cultivation and fruit trees and mangrove plantation. The elements that are crucial to success of the proposed interventions have been identified as: a) capacity building of participants particularly women, b) adequate and suitable access to resources for the participants and value chain actors, c) collaboration between government and local government institutions, d) private sector engagement and improved climate change adaptation knowledge, attitudes and practices. The project will provide technological support and capacity training to the selected beneficiaries in promoting saline resilient technologies and practices, particularly in the agriculture sector. The project will provide technical support to selected households and encourage them to cultivate vegetables at their own cost.

### ***Component 3: Improved climate planning and implementation by communities and local level institutions***

Addressing climate change impacts at the community level requires specialized institutions. Local government institutions in Bangladesh mainly deal with regular development activities. Besides, there are experienced NGOs who have strong and long-term relationships with local communities due to credit programmes. These organizations would play a crucial role in promoting climate change adaptation activities at the community level. The proposed project will select at least 15 NGOs as Implementing Entities in the proposed working areas and enhance their capacity through training and practicing adaptation activities. This will significantly contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the project. Local government departments and institutions will play a role in the decision-making process at the community level through participating in meetings and workshops during implementation. The Union Parishad (UP) Chairman or his/her nominated person will be the focal person of the local GRM process.

PKSF always works with poor and vulnerable people in a group-based approach. For climate change adaptation projects, these groups are termed as "Climate Change Adaptation Groups (CCAGs)." One representative from each selected HHs will be the members of the group. About twenty-five (+/-) participants together will form a group. The objective of forming this group is to deliver the support services in groups in order to minimize the delivery cost as well as to ensure participation and collective decisions of the affected community in implementing the proposed interventions. It will help transfer of knowledge on climate change issues among society because they will discuss climate change at a regular periodic interval, typically fortnightly or monthly in groups. Thus, they will be able to internalize climate change impacts

on their lives and livelihoods. The groups will receive training on climate change issues and how to deal with these problems. They will be able to identify climate change problems in their lives and livelihoods and prepare plans accordingly to reduce the impacts of climate change. They will also look after community infrastructure beyond the project period. Besides, the group approach reduces the management cost of the project.

### **3.0 Stakeholder analysis**

#### **3.1 Summary of the Stakeholder Consultations**

PKSF has carried out consultation meetings at different levels of stakeholders including community people, crab catchers, crab traders and government and non-government representatives. Consultations at the community level suggest that mostly poor communities are engaged in crab-let collection from the Sundarbans area. This practice often threatens their lives to the wild animal as well as downing. Moreover, they do not get crab-lets in near-shore areas and have to go far away, which means crab stocks in nature are reducing. However, these people are looking for secured livelihood options to increase their resilience against climate change. The crab traders suggested that demand for crab at national and global markets is growing and this sector has high potential to significantly contribute to the national economy. PKSF also organized two consultation meetings at the national level. One consultation was held on climate resilient homestead development and the other one was on overall project design. Details can be seen in Annex-1 and 2.

The participants in these meetings argued that crab farming is an effective adaptation option for salinity-affected areas and suggested putting emphasis on value chain interventions for crab. Other issues regarding crab farming that came up in this consultation meeting are fair price of crab for the farmers; lack of government's policy on crab trade and export etc. Regarding resilient homestead, participants suggested to use ferro-cement as an alternative of brick for coastal zone, consideration of sanitation facilities, planting coconut and other trees around the homestead; vertical gardening, and hydroponic cultivation in the homestead area, etc. The participants also argued that water should be the most important element for making a house resilient to climate change in coastal areas of the country. They suggested installing solar powered desalination plants and supply bottle water to the community, water pricing, use of surface water for drinking purposes, rain water harvesting etc. Besides, the project was presented to the Advisory Committee of the NDA in Bangladesh for receiving 'No Objection Letter.' This committee includes climate scientists, civil society members, and government representatives.

In addition to these consultations, this project has used the experience of the earlier Community Climate Change Project (CCCP). During the implementation of the project, many consultation meetings were held at the community level (October, 2012 to December, 2016). The purpose of these meetings was to monitor project progress, implementation quality and quantity, effectiveness and other project level indicators. These meetings and project evaluations also suggested that crab farming and goat/sheep rearing are the two effective livelihood options for the salinity-affected coastal communities. It was also found from field visits that people were satisfied having raised homestead grounds because of escaping tidal inundation.

#### **3.2 Stakeholder Engagement Plan**

Stakeholder engagement during the project implementation will begin at the inception workshop to be held at the initial stage of the project. PKSF will organize a project launching ceremony at national level where National Designated Authority (NDA) representatives, representatives of relevant government ministries and departments including but not limited to Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), National Housing

Authority (NHA), Housing and Building Research Institutes (HBRI), Department of Fisheries (DoF), Water Resource Planning Organization (WARPO), Water Development Board (WDB), Department of Public Health and Engineering (DPHE), Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI), Department of Environment (DoE), Bangladesh Climate Change Trust (BCCT), Universities, NGOs and civil societies will be invited to attend the ceremony. However, the three outcomes of the project will have the following stakeholders.

### **Component 1: Decreased risk of loss of assets and lives from extreme weather events**

This component will engage multiple stakeholders ranging from the national level down to the community level. The Project Management Unit (PMU) at PKSf will lead the activities of the component. PKSf, as AE, will provide guidance on carrying out the baseline study and indicators. It will hire national level consultants who are experts in the climate change adaptation sector. It will engage Economic Relations Division (ERD) as the NDA to GCF for Bangladesh as respondents of layers of interviews and for sharing the research results. It will also engage the Department of Environment, HBRI and other relevant climate change actors including non-government organizations, IEs, LGIs, beneficiaries and civil society members. Finally, activities under this component will engage communities in drought-vulnerable areas to capture their views and status in terms of addressing climate change.

### **Component 2: Increased livelihood resilience to SLR/storm surge and salinity**

This component will involve local offices of the Department of Fisheries, Department of Livestock, Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute, Universities, Department of Agricultural Extension, CCAG members, union parishad representatives, and other local communities. The IE staff will ensure participation of these stakeholders during implementation of the activities under this component.

### **Component 3: Improved climate planning and implementation by communities and local level institutions**

This component will involve the selected beneficiaries, local offices of the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), Department of Fisheries, Department of Forests, implementing entities, CCAG members, community people other than beneficiaries, consultants, and local government representatives.

Stakeholder engagement will be performed using best practices and principles so that the project demonstrates:

- **Commitment** when the need to understand, engage, and identify the community is recognized and acted upon early in the process;
- **Integrity** through mutual respect and trust;
- **Respect** for rights, cultural beliefs, values, and interests of stakeholders and affected communities are recognised;
- **Transparency** when community concerns are responded to in a timely, open, and effective manner;
- **Inclusiveness** when broad participation is encouraged and supported by appropriate participation opportunities; and
- **Trust** through open and meaningful dialogue that respects and upholds a community's beliefs, values, and opinions.

**Table 1: Stakeholder engagement strategies**

Type of stakeholders	Engagement Purpose	Proposed Strategy for stakeholder engagement of stakeholders
Government organisations	Share project information with relevant stakeholders, enhance transparency and accountability.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Project website, online monitoring system, workshops, seminars. Another preferred medium is email.</li> <li>2. For official communications – Official Letters. These written communications can be sent via email and hard copy via courier or post office.</li> <li>3. Regular project updates are to be provided on a monthly and/or quarterly basis through meetings (face-to-face and/or Skype/zoom) at the project level. One assigned focal person and their alternate should be assigned by each organization to the project to ensure continuity.</li> <li>4. At the national level, project updates should be shared through seminars and websites.</li> <li>5. Annual presentations to stakeholders should also be conducted by the EE and Implementing Partners.</li> </ol>
IEs and communities	Increase knowledge and understanding of climate change, transfer technologies for increasing resilience	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Classroom training, group formation and group meetings, implementation of technologies, etc.</li> </ol>
NGOs, IEs and beneficiary communities	Successful implementation of the project and wider dissemination of its results	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sharing of best practices among IEs, CCAGs needs to be conducted. Peer-to-peer learning will contribute to capacity building and scaling up of the project.</li> <li>2. Continued updating of evaluation data, maintenance of project-supported infrastructure, holding regular meetings, and capacity building and training activities will hold the interest and support of local communities, IEs even beyond project life.</li> <li>3. Conducting regular meetings and work planning with community stakeholders will increase transparency and ownership.</li> <li>4. Developing common communication materials and branding for unified messaging that will sustain the interest of end-users and stakeholders at the <i>upazila</i> and community levels.</li> <li>5. Closer coordination among PKSf and IEs in undertaking field work and site visits at the project sites is needed.</li> </ol>

Type of stakeholders	Engagement Purpose	Proposed Strategy for stakeholder engagement of stakeholders
		6. Active participation and engagement at all project activities in the project sites will ensure continued support.
All levels of stakeholders		<p>1. PKSf will follow its information disclosure policy, which is consistent with GCF.</p> <p>2. Website of PKSf and Implementation Partners should also provide access to data/information and recent news and developments of the project.</p> <p>3. For sharing technical and sensitive information, a closed social media group and email loop can be formed.</p> <p>4. Regular project management meetings should be held where substantive and implementation issues and concerns will be discussed.</p> <p>5. Meetings with the IEs and CCAGs on a regular basis should also be established.</p>

These strategies will be implemented through the stakeholder engagement plan during the implementation of the project. The SEP is summarised in Table 2.

**Table 2: Proposed stakeholder engagement plan**

Activity	Timing	Objectives of Engagement	Target stakeholders
Activity 1.1.1: Design and building of homesteads	Yr.1, 2, 3, 4 & 5	To promote climate-resilient homestead for the coastal communities in Bangladesh.	Ministry of Water Resources, Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), Economic Relations Division (ERD), House and Building Research Institute (HBRI), Department of Agricultural Extension, IE, Beneficiaries and local contractors.
1.1.2 Homestead tree planting	Yr.1, 2, 3, 4 & 5	To reduce storm effects on houses in the coastal areas.	Forest Department, Forest Research Institute, Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE), IEs and Beneficiaries.
Activity 2.1.1: Construction of slatted houses for goat/sheep rearing.	Yr.1, 2, 3, 4 & 5	To promote climate-adaptive livestock rearing technology for the coastal communities in Bangladesh.	Implementing Entities (IEs), CCAG members, other community people, and local offices of the Department of Livestock, local labour.



Activity	Timing	Objectives of Engagement	Target stakeholders
Activity 2.1.2: Provide financial support for goat/sheep rearing.	Yr.1, 2, 3, 4 & 5	To promote climate adaptive livestock rearing at household level.	CCAG members and beneficiaries, IEs staffs and PMU.
Activity 2.1.3: Introduce the cultivation of saline tolerant vegetables within homestead areas.	Yr.1, 2, 3, 4 & 5	To promote salinity adaptive vegetable cultivation in coastal areas of Bangladesh.	CCAG members and beneficiaries, Department of Agriculture Extension, IEs and PMU.
Activity 2.2.1.: Development of crab hatcheries (1° stage)	Yr.1, 2, 3, 4 & 5	To reduce extraction of natural crab and crab-lets.	Local entrepreneurs, local labours, IEs and PMU staff.
Activity 2.2.2 Financial support for producing crablets.	Yr.1, 2, 3, 4 & 5	To promote hatchery based crab-let production.	PKSF, IE, hatchery entrepreneurs, crab nurturer and growers i.e. project beneficiaries.
Activity 2.2.3 Technical and financial support for “crab nursers” (2° stage)	Yr.1, 2, 3, 4 & 5	To promote hatchery-based crab farming	PKSF, IE, hatchery entrepreneurs, crab nurturer and growers i.e. project beneficiaries.
Activity 2.2.4 Technical and financial support to “crab farmers” (3° stage).	Yr.1, 2, 3, 4 & 5	To promote hatchery-based crab farming	PKSF, IE, hatchery entrepreneurs, crab nurturer and growers i.e. project beneficiaries.
Activity 3.1.1: Beneficiary selection and group formation.	Y1, Y2	To transfer knowledge and technology for adaptation to climate change in coastal areas of Bangladesh.	Beneficiaries, IEs, and PKSF.
Activity 3.1.2: Prepare Beneficiaries’ socio-economic profile.	Y1, Y2	To keep socio-economic record of selected beneficiaries.	Beneficiaries, IEs, and PKSF.
Activity 3.1.3: Arrange monthly group meetings on climate change issues for CCAG	Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4 and Y5	To transfer knowledge on climate change and adaptation in the coastal areas of Bangladesh.	Beneficiaries, IEs, and PKSF.
Activity 3.2.1: Prepare training manuals on	Y1, Y3, and Y4	To increase capacity of local institutions and	Beneficiaries, IEs, and PKSF.

Activity	Timing	Objectives of Engagement	Target stakeholders
adaptation technologies and crab value chain.		develop technical persons for hatchery operation.	
Activity 3.2.2: Prepare guidelines on project management.	Y1	To ensure efficient implementation of project activities at the field level.	Beneficiaries, IEs, and PKSf.
Activity 3.2.3: Organize training for beneficiaries and stakeholders.	Yr. 1, 2, 3, 4	To increase capacity of beneficiaries and IEs on climate change and adaptation technologies.	Beneficiaries, relevant local government officers, IEs, and PKSf.
Activity 3.2.4: Organize training for IEs' staff.	Yr. 1	Ensure effective implementation of the project.	PKSf and IEs.
Activity 3.2.5: Implement workshops and seminars.	Yr. 1, 2, 3, 4	To share the learning of the project with different stakeholders in Bangladesh.	PKSf, ERD, government ministries and departments, civil society representatives.
Activity 3.2.6: Organize exchange visit for beneficiaries and IEs' staff	Y2, Y3, Y4 & Y5	To promote peer-to-peer learning in adaptation project.	Beneficiaries, relevant local government officers, IEs, and PKSf.
Activity 3.2.7: Improve data for crab research and development	Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4 & Y5	To develop knowledge base on crab farming and development	Beneficiaries, traders, universities, government officials, IEs and PKSf
Activity 3.3.1: Prepare and disseminate knowledge products.	Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4 & Y5	To document and share lessons learned.	Beneficiaries, relevant local government officers, GCF, other global communities, civil society representatives, NGOs, IEs, and PKSf.
Activity 3.3.2 Real time evaluation study of the project activities.	Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4 & Y5	To develop and share knowledge base.	Beneficiaries, relevant local government officers, GCF, other global communities, civil society representatives, NGOs, IEs, and PKSf

Addressing IPP in the project: The PMU will visit all indigenous people's or tribal settlements near the selected subcomponent areas which may be affected and influenced by the subcomponent components. Public meetings will be arranged in selected communities by the

EE and IEs with the indigenous/ tribal communities and their leaders to provide them information about the subcomponent and take their views on the subcomponent. During this visit, the safeguard officer of the PMO will undertake screening of the indigenous or tribal communities with the help of the community leaders and local authorities. The screening will cover the following aspects: (i) name(s) of indigenous/ tribal community group(s) in the area; (ii) total number of tribal community groups in the area; (iii) percentage of indigenous/ community population to that of total area/locality population (iv) number and percentage of indigenous/ community households along the zone of influence of the proposed subcomponent. (v) any land acquisition required from any IP community for the subcomponent? (vi) if so, any alternatives to avoid land acquisition? (vii) If no, will this subcomponent be excluded? (viii) Will an IPP be required if a subcomponent passes through any IP community? (ix) If no, why? If the results of the screening indicate the presence of indigenous/tribal community households in the zone of influence of the proposed subcomponent, a social impact assessment will be undertaken for those areas.

## Stakeholders Consultation on

### Resilient Homestead and Livelihood Support to the Vulnerable Coastal People of Bangladesh (RHL)

Date: 05 October 2017

Venue: Room No. 307, PKSF Bhaban

Organized By: Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)

## Introduction

PKSF organized a stakeholders' consultation on "Resilient Homestead and Livelihood Support to the Vulnerable Coastal People of Bangladesh (RHL)" on 5 October 2017 at PKSF Bhaban. Mr. Md. Fazlul Kader, Deputy Managing Director, PKSF chaired the workshop. Dr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed, Director (Environment and Climate Change Unit), PKSF presented the key paper. Representatives from local and national level NGOs and the private sector attended the meeting.

## Welcome Speech

Mr. Md. Fazlul Kader, Deputy Managing Director of PKSF and the Chair of the workshop delivered the welcome speech. He said that climate change is a global political issue. The debate on climate change has been continuing for more than two decades between developed countries and developing and least developed countries under United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Initially, parties of the developed country would not acknowledge their responsibilities for global warming. After a long debate, parties of the developed country have acknowledged their responsibility for global warming through rapid industrializations, rapid economic growth, and luxurious live-styles in the developed world, which triggers the Green House Gas (GHG) emissions and causes climate change. He informed that Green Climate Fund (GCF) was formed in 2011 under UNFCCC in order to channel funds for implementing climate change related projects and programmes in its member countries.



Mr. Chair informed the participants that accreditation of the National Implementing Entity (NIE) is one of the important mechanisms of GCF for fund disbursement. He informed that PKSF

has been accredited to GCF in its 18<sup>th</sup> board meeting held from 29 September to 02 October 2017. Mr. Kader also informed that getting accreditation to GCF is a challenging job. The NIE is selected following a rigorous process. PKSf had to submit about 250 documents and respond to about 150 queries with evidence. It took more than two years. Few organizations in the world have the capacity to get accreditation to GCF. It opened a new window of raising climate change funds in Bangladesh by Bangladeshi NGOs, private sectors and other types of organizations have the opportunity. He added that mitigation and adaptation projects or programmes are eligible to get funds from GCF. PKSf can receive support from GCF for a single project or programme worth up to 50 million USD.

## **Technical Session**

### **Presentation and discussion on Concept Note format of GCF**

Dr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed, Director, PKSf presented a customized concept note format of GCF. The concept note format was customized by Economic Relations Division (ERD), the National Designated Authority (NDA) of Bangladesh. He explained how to articulate the rationale of an adaptation project or programme i.e. how to explain the climate change-related problems and what to do to address those problems. He put emphasis that GCF will not support any project or programme which is not related to climate change (either adaptation or mitigation). Mr. Ahmed clarified the financing and co-financing issues and advised not to propose loan finance for those activities which do not generate any revenue or profit. He suggested the participants focusing on adaptation projects and programmes. He informed that they might submit a single project of up to USD 50 million. Mr. Ahmed also clarified NIE and MIE. He said that the NGOs have the right to submit proposals through NIE or MIE. But as an NIE, PKSf encouraged them to submit through NIE.



Mr. Ahmed focused on PKSf's role as a NIE. He said that PKSf will facilitate NGOs and Private sectors to get access to Green Climate Fund through Economic Relations Division (ERD), the National Designated Authority (NDA) of Bangladesh. He added that presently NDA is preparing Country Programme (CP) for GCF. The CP will include projects and programmes for the next three years that would be communicated to GCF. He invited the participants to submit concept notes to PKSf to contribute to CP. He informed the participants that PKSf will

take necessary action to compile the potential concepts and send those to NDA. He encouraged the participants that one organization might submit more than one concept note.

### **Presentation on Proposed Project**

PKSF is preparing a project proposal on “Resilient Housing and Livelihood support to the vulnerable coastal people of Bangladesh (RHL)”. Dr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed presented the goal and objectives, the context of the project, the components of the project and the anticipated impacts. He focused on the vulnerability of the coastal community to climate change and explained that the vulnerability of the coastal people is characterized in three ways i.e.

- 1) Climate sensitive livelihood- Coastal people primarily depend on seasonal subsistence agriculture and agriculture wage labor which are highly climate-sensitive
- 2) Weak human settlement in low-lying areas- the coastal poor community build their houses with mud and *goal pata* which severely affected by cyclone & storm surge and high tides and
- 3) Scarcity of safe drinking and irrigation water.

Considering these vulnerabilities of the coastal people, the proposed project aims to promote climate-resilient livelihoods through adopting improved technologies and practices and build climate-resilient housing for the vulnerable crab farmers, destitute women, and natural resource-dependent communities. Dr. Ahmed continued that activities are classified into three components which include climate-resilient livelihoods, climate-resilient housing and capacity building and knowledge management. The livelihood component focuses on establishment of crab hatchery and crab fattening while the housing component focuses on the construction of houses that are storm and flood-resistant. The housing also includes sanitation, water facilities and a solar home system. The capacity building component includes education and awareness on climate change, training on improved technology and management.

### **Open discussion**

Mr. Md. Fazlul Kader, Deputy Managing Director facilitated the open discussion. Mr. Khairul Islam from TMSS opined that crab farming is an effective adaptation option for salinity-affected areas. He suggested putting emphasis on value chain interventions of crab. Mr. Shah Alam from Satkhira Unnayan Sangstha informed that crab farmers do not get the same price throughout the year. In the lean period from November to February, they do not produce crab. He added that the GoB has no crab export policy. As a result, farmers do not get fair prices. Mr. Philip Biswas from Rural Reconstruction Foundation (RRF) suggested including sanitation to the resilient housing concept. He also suggested ferro-cement as an alternate of brick for the coastal zone. Mr. Md. Fazlul Kader, Deputy Managing Director of PKSF said that ferro-cement requires specialized labor. He opined that before considering ferro-cement, we need to learn whether we have this type of labor in the coastal zone. He suggested to plant huge coconut and palm trees around the house rather to protect from cyclonic storms. Mr. Humayun Kabir from RDRS mentioned about some other adaptation options like vertical gardening, hydro phoenix, vegetable cultivation in gani bag etc. Mr. Shaon from Unnayan Prochesta (UP) suggested including income-generating options in the housing concept.





Mr. Chair raised the issue of water-related problems in coastal areas of Bangladesh. Mr. Shamsul Huda from Dhaka Ahsania Mission suggested installing solar-powered desalination plants and supplying water in a container to the community to reduce system loss. He also suggested to introducing smart cards in the billing system. Mr. Huda added that river water can be purified on the boat and distribute by boat along the river. Mr. Yousuf from Sangram suggested using surface water for drinking purposes. Participants from NGO Forum suggested that rainwater can be harvested by constructing a catchment area. Mr. Kader opined that rainwater does not always contain all required minerals, so we have to focus on potable water.

### **Closing Session**

In the closing session, Md. Fazlul Kader, Deputy Managing Director (DMD), PKSF and the Chair of the workshop said that PKSF has established Environment and Climate Change Unit (ECCU). We also get accreditation from GCF. So, PKSF will permanently work on climate change issues. He added that the quality performance of our NGOs will bring success in combating climate change in the long run.

He provided guidance to the participants on the follow-up activities of the workshop. These are:

1. Concept note(s) should be submitted to PKSF by 8 October 2017.
2. We have high-level experts on adaptation to climate change and need to seek their opinions on adaptation, if required.
3. PKSF will organize a consultation meeting on “climate-resilient housing”.

Finally, Mr. Md. Fazlul Kader thanked all the participants for their active participation and declares the closing of the workshop.

## List of participants

Sl. No	Name and Designation	Orgnisation	Phone	Email
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**Minutes of Stakeholders' Consultation Workshop on  
Climate Resilient Housing for Coastal Areas of Bangladesh**

Date: 25 October 2017

Venue: Room No. 307, PKSF Bhaban

Organized By: Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)

**Introduction:**

A Stakeholder Consultation Meeting on “Climate Resilient Housing in Coastal Areas of Bangladesh” was held on 25 October 2017 at PKSF Bhaban, Agaogaon, Dhaka. Dr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed, Director, Environment and Climate Change Unit of PKSF has presided over the meeting. NGO representatives particularly from coastal areas of Bangladesh, have participated in the workshop.

**Welcome Speech**

Dr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed, Director, Environment and Climate Change Unit has delivered the welcome speech. He welcomed the participants and explained the objective of the workshop. Mr. Ahmed said that PKSF is preparing a proposal to GCF where climate-resilient housing is an important component. Environment and Climate Change Unit of PKSF has developed and designed a concept on resilient housing for coastal vulnerable people. He added that the house was designed with transformative social potential. It will empower people through (a) ownership of resilient housing with its strong potential for social transformation, especially for the landless poor; (b) providing housing as the core asset on which poor people build on. The sole or joint entitlement of resilient houses would empower women and help them address other aspects of gender inequality. Dr. Ahmed said that the project will be implemented in highly climate change-impacted areas of coastal Bangladesh. The villages will be selected considering the level of climatic hazard exposure, the percentage of the population living in extreme poverty, and the presence of highly fragile housing structures due to climatic disasters. He then invited the participants to share their ideas and views through active participation.

**Technical Session**

**Presentation on Proposed Project**

Mr. Md. Rabi Uzzaman, Deputy Manager, Environment and Climate Change Unit of PKSF presented the concept of climate-resilient housing for coastal zone of Bangladesh. He explained why climate-resilient housing is important for poor and vulnerable coastal communities. He said that the houses of vulnerable coastal communities are made with mud and goal pata or mele which are highly vulnerable to intensive precipitation, coastal flooding, cyclones and storm surges.

He also said that intensive coastal flooding inundates homesteads and causes damage to mud walls and kancha roofs in low-lying areas. Cyclone and storm surge- wipes out roofs of kancha house. Mr. Rabi Uzaaman added that damage to a house causes damage to household resources including storage food, water supply system, sanitation etc. He also said that the poor have to spend a significant amount of their income each year on reconstructing their houses. Thus, they cannot step out of poverty.

Then the presenter explained the concept of climate-resilient housing for coastal zones. He said that in coastal zones, resilient housing should include raised plinths above surge height

levels, strong enough to resist cyclonic storms of category 4-5, resilient sanitation systems and water availability. He added that suitable tree species should be planted around the homestead to protect the house from storms. He then explained the design of the resilient house. It is shown in Figure 1 and 2.

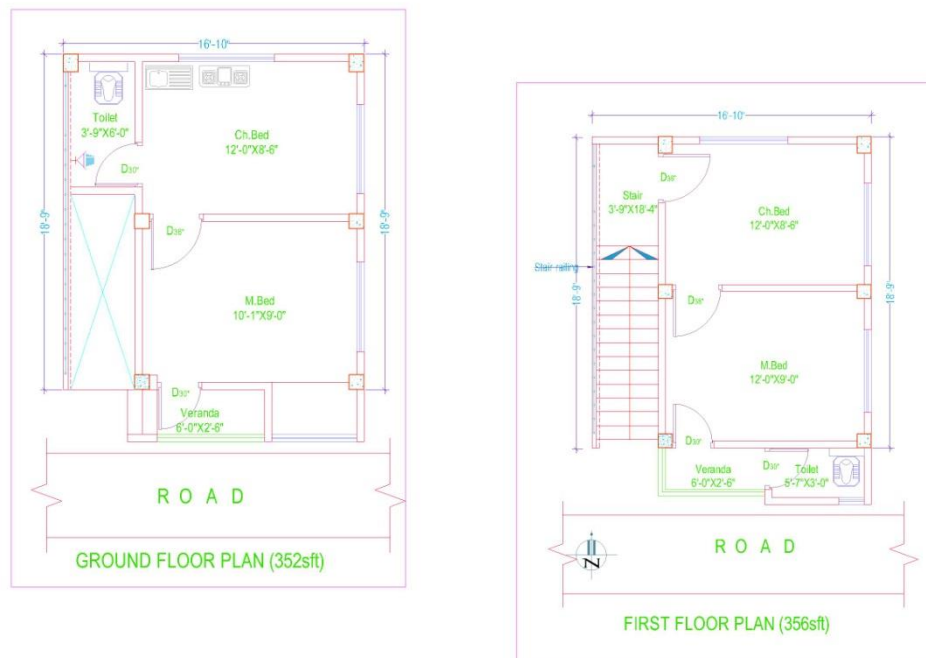


Figure 1: Design of climate resilient housing

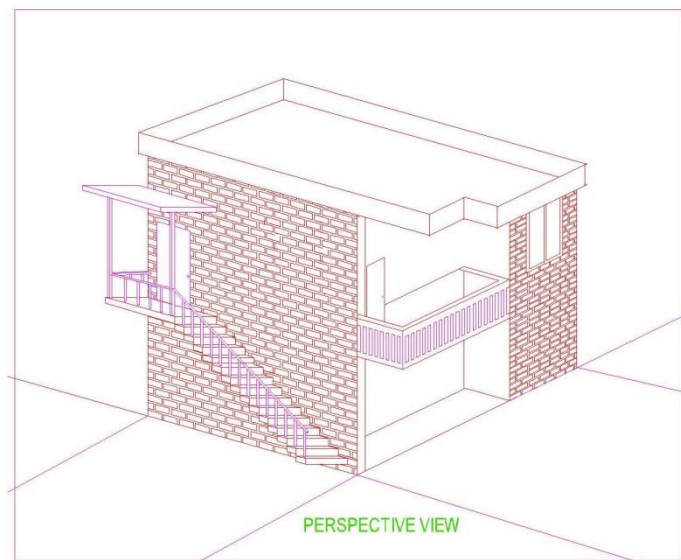


Figure 2: 3-D view of climate resilient housing

He explained that it is a two-stored building having two rooms on each floor. The building will be built on a raised plinth. The project will support building ground floor only. The first floor would be built by the beneficiary in future when they achieve their capacity. This building can

also be used as a shelter during emergency situations. This design also considers that the poor people have less land for building a house. This building requires less than one decimal of land.

Mr. Rabi Uzzaman also focused on the beneficiaries' criteria to avail the opportunity of climate resilient housing. The criteria are:

- At least 1 decimal own land
- Existing houses are inundated by high tides
- Having *Kancha* house at vulnerable condition
- Poor and ultra-poor women headed household
- Lowest income
- Limited livelihood options

The presentation also focused on the selection process of beneficiaries which are:

- Consultation in large group
- Prepare household profile
- Wellbeing analysis through focused group discussion
- Prepare draft list
- Verify the list and
- Prepare final list for approval

## **Open discussion**

Dr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed, Director, PKSF facilitated the open discussion. Mr. Philip Biswas, Executive Director from Rural Reconstruction Foundation (RRF) opined that housing owners must own land. He said that in case of common land of a family, formal land demarcation documents should be made compulsory to support the housing. He suggested that the financial contribution of each of the recipient households should also be made compulsory. He added that houses should be built on a cluster basis or individual.

Mr. Saleh Mahmud, Director, Resource Integration Centre (RIC) opined that community must pay 10-15% of the total investment to build houses. The roof slope should be as long as possible because coastal people culturally build their houses with long slopes with the view that they would extend their houses in future. He emphasized on local or indigenous knowledge for building houses. The RCC and wood will be treated as local technology. He also suggested that tamarind and potassium permanganate could be used with building materials to protect it from salinity and to increase durability. He suggested using sweet water to make new bricks at brick fields and other housing materials for long durability. He also suggested considering prefabricated bricks for the longevity of the house. He added that Ferro-cement could be an alternative to brick for coastal zones.

The participants argue that the cost of house construction varies by different locations. Mr. Mahmud suggested to consider provision of repair costs in the budget. The participants also argued that appropriate distance between tube-well and sanitary latrine should strictly be followed for health safety.

Mr. Shahajan Gazi, Executive Director of Dak Diye Jay (DDJ) suggested to treat CI sheet and nut-bolt before using in house construction. Mr. Khairul Islam of TMSS opined that during procurement, it is better to involve beneficiaries for ensuring quality of materials and transparency. He also suggested that a cow shed or Killa should be built nearby the houses. The participants opined that multi-stored buildings may be considered provided that there is an opportunity to extend houses at the ground floor. Mr. Shahnewaj Kabir from Unnyan Prochesta suggested to keep options for income earning from the house. Some participants suggested options for rainwater harvesting or tube-well-adjacent houses. They also suggested installing desalination plants for safe drinking water in extreme saline-prone

areas. Ms. Rulia Pervin from NDP opined that tree saplings would be local species that are tolerant to salinity.

At this point, Dr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed asked the participants whether a housing loan for the poor was viable or not. Md. Moshir Rahman, Director of POPI opined that poor people could not afford housing loans. But in case of livelihood development, they may agree to take loan because it will create source of their earning.

### Closing Session

In the closing session, Dr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed, Director, PKSF and the Chair of the workshop, said that discussion was very fruitful and the recommendation will be considered for final project proposal. He informed that the project would incorporate suggestions and recommendations from the workshop. He thanked the participants for their active participation in the workshop and valuable suggestions. He then declared the closing of the workshop.

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