

Gender Sensitivity and Responsiveness in Adaptation:

Revisiting the Experiences of the Pioneering Community-Based Adaptation

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Easy ways out:

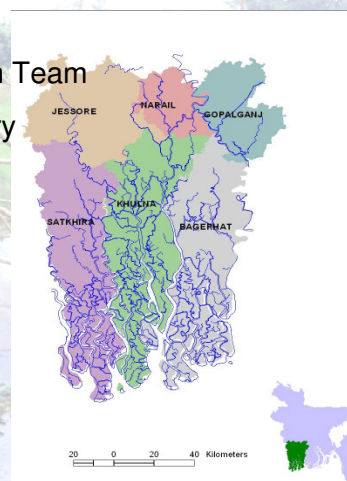
Include females in Project Implementation Team

Include a few females as target beneficiary

Gender Sensitive?

Gender Responsive?

A project 'Reducing Vulnerability to
Climate Change (RVCC)' was designed
and implemented between late-2002 &
early-2005 to promote adaptation to CC.



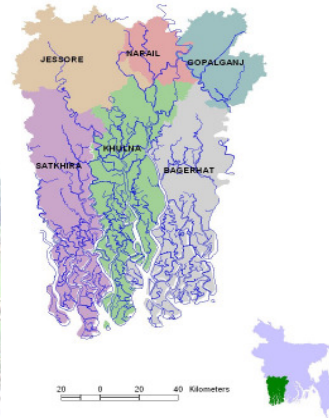
CIDA provided financial assistance for implementation via the Canada Climate Change Adaptation Fund

CARE-Bangladesh implemented the project in southwestern Bangladesh

Goal: To increase capacity of communities (involving 4300 hhs) in the southwestern Bangladesh to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change.

Purpose: Communities and institutions in the southwestern region demonstrate capacity to:

- raise awareness on climate change
- reduce climate change-induced vulnerabilities, and
- influence relevant policies.



Design of the project was the key.

Contexts of Vulnerability of men and women were defined by the 'vulnerable people' themselves.



Sensitivity Issue (in a given context): Women were requested to define their vulnerability separately (without the influence of their male counterparts).

The same set of questions yielded different set of responses.



Gender-differentiated vulnerability analysis.

Response measures were identified based on such gender-differentiated VA.

Gender-responsiveness

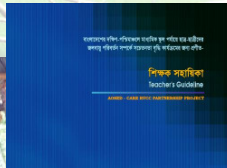


Is there any way to directly address gender-specific concerns?

Do women face trouble towards implementing any of the response measures?

Do women feel left out just because they do not have the know-how?

Do women have different preference towards accessing awareness materials? (Language, form/format, source.....)



Girls' only schools were chosen to introduce a school curricula
(creating equal access to information)

Folk media was chosen for awareness raising because women preferred it

Timing for awareness raising sessions were chosen carefully so that women could participate after dealing with household chores

A few livelihoods enhancement modalities were chosen so that women could implement those as well as males in the neighbourhood
(Gender-sensitive modality, timing, etc.)

Women were given training on managing low-cost filters for water purification, the use of RWH and pond-sand filters
(specific interventions to address gender-specific issues)




Women were inspired to speak and integrate their concerns in local level adaptation planning and their implementation
(creation of space in public sphere to demand for their rights)

Women's issue was prioritized toward identifying key advocacy issue of the SW Bangladesh: Government was forced to take a firm decision

Women groups/individuals were facilitated to pick up male partners when it came to marketing their produce
(creation of opportunities while respecting social norms)





Acknowledging contributions from the following colleagues:

Angie Daze, CARE Canada

Claudia Schaerer, former Consultant, CARE Bangladesh

Sharmin Neelormi, Focal Point, GenderCC Asia

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