

The Strategic Plan of Caritas Bangladesh July-2004 to June-2014

Vision

In the light of the Social Teachings of the Church, Caritas Bangladesh envisions a society, which embraces the values of freedom and justice, peace and forgiveness, to live as a communion and community of mutual love and respect.

Mission

Caritas Bangladesh tries to become a partner of people – especially the poor and marginalized, with equal respect for all – to attain integral development, to live a truly human life in dignity and to serve others responsibly.

Strategic Priorities

1. Human Resource Development through Education, Formation and Capacity Building

- Quality education for children and youths especially those in need.
- Formation and development of adolescents and youths.
- Capacity building and formation of staff.
- Technical education for rural and urban underprivileged youths.

2. Establishment of Social Justice and Human Rights through the Capacity Building of the Poor, of the Women and of the Ethnic Communities

- Promotion of and advocacy for social justice in favor of the poor and marginalized, especially for ethnic communities, vulnerable women and disadvantaged children.
- Creation of appropriate conditions to eliminate all forms of discriminations against gender, class, religion and ethnicity.
- Capacity building of the extreme poor for their sustainable livelihoods.
- Strengthening of self-managed and sustainable Peoples' Organizations (POs) through facilitation on advocacy, linkage and networking.

3. Health and Care

- Preventive and curative health services including safe water and sanitation, especially for the remotest areas and vulnerable groups.
- Promotion of pro-life reproductive health care.
- Preventive education on HIV/AIDS and drug abuse and care for the drug addicts and PLHA (People Living with HIV/AIDS).
- Care and capacity building for the people with disability and elderly.
- Family life education for promoting responsible parenthood and respect for procreation.

4. Ensure Ecological Sustainability and sustainable livelihood through the use and preservation of Natural Resources and Capacity Building in Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation.

- Humanitarian assistance to people affected by natural calamities and man-made disasters.
- Capacity building of the people in coping with disasters and climate change.
- Promotion of innovative steps to minimize degradation of environment and depletion of natural resources.
- Promotion of People's Led Approach/Farmers' Led Approach (PLA/FLA) for sustainable livelihood and food sovereignty.
- Advocacy for climate justice for poverty reduction and promotion of indigenous knowledge and community based approaches for climate change adaptation.

Cross Cutting Issues

- Community Participation
- Good Governance
- Gender
- Climate Justice
- Partnership Building
- Spirituality in Development
- Advocacy, Lobbying and Networking
- Development of Differently-abled Peoples
- Inclusive Development

Partners in Development

- Extreme poor both rural and urban
- Marginalized community especially the ethnic groups
- Children
- Youth
- Women
- People with Disability
- Elderly
- People's Organizations (POs)/Civil Society Organizations
- Donors or funding partners from home and abroad
- Like-minded Organizations

Objectives and Strategies

1. Human Resource Development through Education, Formation and Capacity Building

Objective 1

Caritas as well as public and private educational institutions impart quality education; and remote rural children of *adivasi*, minority caste and destitute children have access to quality education.

Strategies

- Establish access to quality education to the children of remote areas, especially to the children of *adivasi* communities and minority caste groups.
- Join and support national level initiative of *adivasi/pro-adivasi* institutions on indigenous matters/issues.
- Establish and run educational institutions for disadvantaged children and teachers training institute for quality education.
- Undertake advocacy campaign and lobby with government and like-minded organizations/networks to implement the National Education Policy in collaboration with POs, other local and national level organizations.
- Promote good governance, accountability and transparency in the existing educational institutions.
- Provide stipend/sponsorship for the students from the extreme poor families.

Objective 2

The poor and the youth are developing themselves as productive human resources.

Strategies

- Restructure the existing technical training-providing institutions for market-based skills and institutionalize a change process towards co-management whenever relevant.
- Promote linkages of the poor, particularly the unemployed youths and women with the Government of Bangladesh and other technical-training providing institutions for skill development.
- Introduce life skill based awareness education and climate change adaptation skills in existing programs and advocate for the same with other institutions.
- Facilitate the job placement initiatives for the graduates/skilled youths.

Objective 3

Family, institutions and society are responsive to the rights and needs of children and adolescents.

Strategies

- Undertake broad-based (individual, family and community) awareness on the role of the adolescent girl and boy in healthy nation building and adolescent issues related to family life skill education, pro-life reproductive health, safety and human trafficking at home and around.
- Encourage community and school based awareness initiatives related to rights and needs of children and adolescents in Caritas working areas.
- Join national alliance to address the issues of the children and the adolescents.

Objective 4

Remote rural extreme poor people, especially female headed households and the people with disability, are developing themselves as productive human resources, creating employability and having access to different Safety Net Programs of the government and welfare oriented service delivery institutions.

Strategies

- Provide welfare services and establish linkages of the extreme poor especially female-headed household, vulnerable women and children living in the remotest areas, and existing working areas (islands, islets, coastal, hilly and river eroded areas).
- Provide life skills with motivation and inspiration for extreme poor people.
- Arrange skill training for employability and linking with Caritas Micro Finance Program (CMFP).
- Undertake advocacy programme for the extreme poor at the national level in collaboration with the POs and other like-minded organizations working with the poor.

Objective 5

Caritas staff are capable of managing the diverse and changing environment of development intrinsically connected to the local, national and global economy, diversity of cultures and technologies.

Strategies

- Undertake the Human Resource Development (HRD) program to groom future leadership of the organization and provide appropriate orientation, knowledge and skill for continued growth.
- Promote linkage with suitable institutions/organizations to achieve HRD goal/s.

2. Establishment of Social Justice and Human Rights through the Capacity Building of the Poor, of the Women and of the Ethnic Communities

Objective 1

People and relevant institutions are active in establishing social justice and human rights.

Strategies

- Strengthen POs/*Adivasi* Social Organizations (ASOs) to identify social injustice, human rights violations and facilitate these POs/ASOs to organize initiatives for mitigation.
- Facilitate the POs/ASOs in seeking a local level and national level alliance for advocacy, lobbying and networking on social justice and human rights.
- Provide legal support for the victims of social injustice.

Objective 2

Dignity and equality of women are nurtured and upheld in family, institutions and society.

Strategies

- Improve capacities of women for social change and leadership.
- Support and work in collaboration with local, national and international advocacy forums and networks for women's rights and indigenous people's rights.
- Join and support issue-based initiatives to press home the enforcement of women's rights (Laws and Conventions) and have access to conflict resolution support (legal aid, mediation).
- Continue to implement and mainstream learning and best practices from Gender and Development to all programs in the light of Gender Policy and actively seek new interventions suitable to the purpose in collaboration with the grassroots level POs/ASOs and like-minded organizations.

Objective 3

The human rights, civil and cultural rights of *adivasi* are recognized; and relevant *adivasi* institutions are playing a strong role towards this end and they are living in equal dignity and harmony with the greater society in their own land and with their own language, culture, heritage and self-dignity.

Strategies

- Improve the capacity of *adivasi* peoples and their social institutions to undertake policy advocacy for recognition of the human rights, civil and cultural rights.
- Establish an action oriented specialist group to uphold and demand land rights of *adivasi* in alliance and partnership with like-minded local and national level organizations.
- Formulate and implement *Adivasi* Policy for the development of rights and dignity of *adivasi*.
- Continue with education, awareness, social mobilization and legal aid for protection of land rights of *adivasi* and *Rishi* community.
- Revitalize the sense of *adivasi* identity and facilitate its reflection through different activities locally and nationally through research and promotional measures.

Objective 4

Poor marginalized people establish their entitlement in productive resources (*khas* or Government-owned land, water bodies, forest, etc.).

Strategies

- Continue with the awareness campaign in existing programs for the poor and the marginalized on their rights to substantially avail *khas* land, *jal-mohal* (water bodies), forest resources, etc. through appropriate facilitation on linkage, networking and technical support following Rights Based Approach.

3. Health and Care

Objective 1

Health care facilities exist; public health care institutions deliver quality health care services; and remote rural people have access to quality health care.

Strategies

- Continue with the existing health programs with greater and focused attention.
- Organize and motivate the community to demand quality health services and facilitate community people to ensure access to existing public health facilities.
- Join and support the local and national level advocacy campaign for “Health for All”.

Objective 2

Public utility institutions are responsive to people’s need of safe food, safe water, sanitation and environmental hygiene.

Strategies

- Undertake motivational and supply-based initiatives for safe food, safe water, sanitation and environmental hygiene.
- Introduce tested alternative access to safe rain and surface water through storage and conservation.
- Introduce community-based awareness and motivational initiatives for safe disposal of waste and drainage of used water.
- Undertake advocacy campaign to implement the existing WATSAN policy in collaboration with other local and national level organizations to ensure access to safe water, sanitation and environment hygiene in urban and rural community.

Objective 3

People and relevant institutions actively participate in a social movement to prevent drug addiction and care for drug-addicted victims.

Strategies

- Introduce family and community based, peer-driven awareness and counseling on prevention from drug addiction through establishment of sub-centers.
- Undertake curative measures for drug addicts through sub-centers.

Objective 4

People and relevant institutions actively participate in a social movement to prevent HIV/AIDS and care for HIV/AIDS victims.

Strategies

- Develop awareness materials for groups (truck drivers, floating sex workers and their clients, transgender and visiting immigrants) vulnerable to HIV/AIDS and ensure accessibility for them.
- Introduce awareness and motivational initiatives for the community, POs leaders and staff on HIV/AIDS.
- Undertake initiatives for implementing and mainstreaming the Program Policy on HIV/AIDS and Work Place Policy on HIV/AIDS.
- Undertake advocacy campaign through networking with the like-minded organization and self-help groups including Church Bodies.

Objective 5

People are active to prevent others from becoming disabled and to promote caring for the people with disability.

Strategies

- Undertake awareness campaign on disability prevention with like-minded public and civil society organizations including Church Bodies.

- Undertake community-based sensitization and caring program in close collaboration with community and educational institutions.
- Join and support national network of organizations working with the people with disability.
- Integrate/mainstream disability-related issues and care into Caritas programming through nationally applicable policy measures.
- Undertake community based rehabilitation program for people with disability.
- Facilitate and encourage the organization of the people with disability for seeking both local and national level alliance for advocacy and lobbying for social justice.

Objective 6

Poor elderly people of the rural community avail welfare services from the relevant institutions.

Strategies

- Provide and encourage family-based welfare services for the poor elderly people and establish linkages of the elderly poor living in remote working areas of Caritas.
- Undertake community-based programs focusing rights of the elderly people and their well being.

Objective 7

People are active to prevent maternal, child mortality and morbidity and promote respect for pro-creation.

Strategies

- Undertake awareness campaigns on family life and pro-life reproductive health education for responsible parenthood.
- Promote family and community based awareness of the special needs of adolescents and young adults, especially that of pro-life human sexuality and education in family life skills.
- Improve the capacity of Traditional Birth Attendants (TBA) and form rural midwives for remote communities lacking trained personnel.
- Sensitize and motivate men to participate in the promotion of pro-life reproductive life

4. Ensure Ecological Sustainability and sustainable livelihood through the use and preservation of Natural Resources and Capacity Building in Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation

Objective 1

People and relevant institutions are capacitated and responsive at all stages (pre-disaster, during disaster and post-disaster) towards disaster

preparedness, rescue and rehabilitation together with climate change adaptation and availing humanitarian assistance and necessary resources from different public and civil society sources.

Strategies

- Facilitate community-based volunteers, task forces and micro level planning to cope with disaster to strengthen disaster management committees for disaster risk reduction (DRR).
- Promote public awareness on disaster and integrate DRR and climate change (CC) in all programs to minimize the effects of hazards.
- Promote, disseminate and mainstream good practices in disaster risk management.
- Promote public health awareness on earthquake to minimize the effects of hazards.
- Strengthen staff capacity on disaster risk management and to promote networking and advocacy for local resource mobilization for disaster risk management.
- Join and support national level initiatives to mitigate disasters, both natural and man-made, and effects of CC.
- Advocacy and Networking with Local Government Disaster Management structures and other like-minded local NGOs to strengthen the Union and Ward level DMC (Disaster Management Committees), so that the capacities of local community people are enhanced in saving the people's lives and livelihood assets.

Objective 2

People, public and private institutions including Church Bodies are aware of climate justice and mobilized towards sustainable use of natural resources through climate change adaptation techniques and indigenous knowledge.

Strategies

- Undertake awareness campaign and advocate climate justice for poverty reduction considering different agro ecological zones and facilitate awareness on judicious use of natural resources including climate change adaptation.
- Define and develop awareness, advocacy and behavior change communication (BCC) materials for family, community, institutions to disseminate and mainstream good practices; and promote dialogue, exchange of information and coordination to ensure rights and well being of the climate refugees and migrants.
- Join and support local, national, regional and international initiatives to develop broad-based awareness, linkage and networking for policy initiatives to review and enforce climate justice, environmental laws/conventions including climate change adaptation.

- Replicate learning and good practices for sustainable use of natural resources, farmer led approach for sustainable livelihood for food sovereignty.
- Facilitate innovation, implementation and replication of climate change adaptation knowledge and technologies at home and abroad.
- Undertake awareness campaign and advocate for safe food for reduction of harmful effects of pesticides and chemical fertilizers.