

Project No. 26

CAPACITY STRENGTHENING IN THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (LDCs) FOR ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE (CLACC)

Background:

With the financial support and technical guidance from the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), London there are CLACC fellows in the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to fulfill the following objectives.

- To set up a Forum with key personnel of local government agencies, NGOs and civil societies;
- To raise awareness among them on climate change and development issues;
- To strengthen the capacity of key staff of partner organizations; and
- To set an information and resource center about the subject.

Caritas Bangladesh has a CLACC fellow under the National Plans of Actions (NAPAs).

Activities:

During the reporting period the only one project staff along with the assistance and cooperation of members of Forum and the staff members of other NGOs developed two Project Design Documents (PDDs) i.e. (a) Enhancement of Adaptive Capacity of Draught Vulnerable Community in the North West Region of Bangladesh and (b) Community Adaptation to Salinity and Cyclone in Southwest Coastal Region of Bangladesh in association with other team members of Project Design Team. The second consultation meeting for preparing a city Atlas was organized at Caritas Khulna Regional Office with the involvement of the stakeholders. The staff members attended the 14th Conference of the Parties (COP-14) at Poznan, Poland organized by United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change (UNFCCC) and IPCC-3 (Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change) workshop in New York, USA organized by UCCRN (Urban Climate Change Research Network). A CoP-14 feedback meeting was arranged with the presence of civil society members sharing the outcome of the conference and the position of Bangladesh. The CLACC fellow of Caritas attended the Third International CBA (Community Based Adaptation) conference held in Dhaka and as a staff of CFP animated the participants during the field visit in coastal and drought affected areas.

Conclusion:

The project has enriched the level of knowledge, skills, confidence including the qualities of leadership and commitment of the stakeholders at different levels. Caritas has taken up the climate change aspect seriously and is reflecting on development interventions accordingly. There is a plan for a “National Conference on Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation Experiences in Bangladesh” to be arranged by August '09 in cooperation with the country's most renowned experts. A long-term capacity strengthening initiative is required for the poor whose vulnerability is a serious concern for all of us.