

Project No: 24

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (SEMP)

Principle : Overcoming environmental degradation and poverty through community based environment management.

Objectives : Environmental restoration and community-based sustainable resource management developed in brackish water area.

Background : The project started from October 1998 and phased out in December 2006. The donor continued support only for the environment school program from July 2006 to December 2006.

Staff strength: Volunteers - 8 (men)

Donor : *United Nations Development Program (UNDP)*

Expenditure : Foreign partners contribution Tk. 59,101/-

Targets and achievements:

People's organization in the name of "Coastal Environment Development Federation" has been formed involving a cross section of people from different professional groups like *Bawali* (wood cutter), *Mowali* (honey collector), shrimp fry collector, shrimp farmer, *Munda* (Indigenous community), *Rishi* community, *Jeje* (fisherman community), day labourer, agriculture farmer, etc. The federation started working for taking up responsibility of the project in the future. At the same time, targets and their achievements of major activities during the reporting period are summarized below:

Sl. No.	Items/Activities	Achievements as on June 2006	Performances in FY= 2006-2007			
			Target	Achieve	% of achieve.	Cumulative as on June 07
1	Formation of groups	75	-	-	-	75
1.1	Male (group and members)	34=798	20	12	60	34=810
1.2	Female (group and members)	41=970	20	16	80	41=986
	Total	1,768	40	28		1,796
2	Savings accumulation	Tk. 2,031,000	313,080	219,681	73	Tk. 2,250,681
3	Environmental School Program	3	0	0		3
4	People's Organization	0	1	1	100	1

The above table shows that during the FY (2006-2007) a total of Tk. 219,681 savings was accumulated under this project. Only the school program and People's Organization activities were carried out during the reporting period.

Conclusion:

Though the project phased out in December 2006, some activities in a low profile by utilization of its own resources are being implemented. The activities are limited to only the school program and the group activities (savings and credit). We understand that UNDP wishes to replicate the learning of the project (best practices) in the southwest part of Bangladesh. At the same time Caritas Bangladesh wants to continue the project activities for overcoming the hardship of the poor people and reduction of degradation of eco-system through launching a new project titled Natural Resources Management Project (NRMP).