

Vision Mission Priorities and 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 marginalised, with equal respect for all – to attain integral development, to live a truly human life in dignity and to serve others responsibly.

Priorities

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

- Quality Education for children and youth, especially those in need.
- Formation and development of Youths and Adolescents.
- Capacity building and Formation of Staff.

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

- Promote, uphold and advocate for Social Justice in favor of the poor and marginalised.
- Create appropriate conditions to eliminate all forms of discriminations against gender, class, religion and ethnicity.
- Self-help capacity building of the hardcore poor for their sustainable livelihoods.
- Activation of self-managed sustainable Peoples Organization through appropriate educational and technical support.
- Capacity building through institution development.

3. Health and Care

- Preventive and Curative Health services including Safe Water and Sanitation.
- Preventive Education on HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse and Care for the drug addicts.
- Care for the Disabled and Elderly.
- Family Life Education for promoting Responsible Parenthood and Respect for Procreation.

4. Ensure Ecological Sustainability through the Appropriate use of Natural Resources and Capacity Building in Disaster Management.

- Humanitarian assistance to people affected by Natural Calamities and Man-made Disasters.
- Building of the capacity of the people in coping with disasters, before, during and after.
- Promote innovative steps to minimize Degradation of Environment and Depletion of Natural Resources to restore ecological balance.
- Bio-diversity Conservation and Poverty Reduction through sustainable use of natural resources (including land, water, aquatic resources and livestock) as well as promotion of Indigenous Knowledge & techniques.

Cross Cutting Issues:

- Community Participation
- Gender
- Spirituality in Development
- Good Governance
- Partnership Building
- Advocacy and Lobbying

Partners in Development:

- Poorest of the poor, especially the landless and day-labourers
- Marginalized Community especially the ethnic groups
- Children
- Youth
- Women
- Disabled
- Elderly

Objectives and Strategies

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

Objective:

Caritas as well as Public 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 destitute children and teachers training institute for quality education.
- Undertake advocacy campaign and lobby with government to implement the existing "quality education for all" policy in collaboration with other local and national level organizations.
- Ensure good governance, accountability, and transparency in the existing educational institutions.

Objective:

The poor and the youth are developing themselves (formation for life) as marketable, productive human resources and creating employability.

Strategies:

- Restructure the existing technical training-providing institutions (to be done by appropriate programs and technical personnel of Caritas) in view of market-based skills (curriculum, delivery, materials and equipment) and institutionalize a change process whenever relevant.
- Promote/establish linkages of the poor, particularly the unemployed youth and woman with the GOB & other technical training providing institutions for skill development (and support demanding those services with guidance).
- Continue with the existing employment creating technical learning programs through establishing and running new technical training centres.
- Introduce life skill based awareness in existing programs and advocate for the same with other institutions.
- Facilitate the job placement initiatives for the graduated/skilled youth.

Objective:

Family, institutions and society are responsive to the rights and needs of Children and Adolescents.

Strategies:

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

Objective:

Remote rural hard core poor people are developing themselves as productive human resources and creating employability and have access to different welfare oriented service delivery institutions.

Strategies:

- Provide welfare services and establish linkages of the hard core poor living in remote areas, and existing working areas (islands, islets, river eroded areas, etc.).
- Provide life skills with motivation and inspiration for hard core poor people.
- Provide skill training for employability linked with soft-term credit.
- Gather experience from other organizations and share Caritas Bangladesh's experience with other relevant organizations working in this field.
- Be an advocate for the hard core poor at the national level in collaboration with other implementing organizations working with the hard core poor.

Objective:

Caritas personnel 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) programme to groom future leadership of the organization for potential and committed personnel and provide appropriate knowledge, skill and attitude for continuous growth.
- Promote/establish linkage with suitable institutions/organizations to achieve HRD goal/s.
- Create a fund for HRD.

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

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

Strategies:

- Strengthen People's Organizations to identify social injustice, human rights violations and support organized initiatives to mitigate them in coordination with the local Government.
- Support Peoples' Organizations in seeking a local level and national level alliance for advocacy and lobbying on social injustice and human rights.

Objective:

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

Strategies:

- Improve capacities of women for social change and leadership. (Ref. Gender Policy of Caritas Bangladesh)
- Support local and national level advocacy for women rights organized by women organizations/People's Organizations.
- Join and support issue-based initiatives to press home the enforcement of Women Rights (Laws and Conventions) and have access to conflict resolution support (legal aid, mediation).
- Continue with the existing gender and development programme to promote women development and actively seek new interventions suitable to the purpose.

Objective:

The Human rights, civil and cultural rights of Adivasis 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 culture, heritage and self-dignity.

Strategies:

- Improve the capacity of organized people and relevant social institutions to undertake policy advocacy for recognition of the human rights, civil and cultural rights of Adivasis through alliance and partnership with like-minded local and national organizations.
- Establish an advocacy, lobby and action oriented specialist group to uphold and demand land rights of Adivasis in alliance and partnership with like-minded local and national level organizations.
- Continue with education, awareness and legal aid on protection of land rights of Adivasis.
- Establish "Land Banks" in Adivasi areas to maintain land under the control of Adivasis within the Adivasi based programme.
- Establish access to the children of remotely residing ethnic minorities to quality education with ethnic conscious curriculum, delivery and materials.
- Introduce/establish linkage for scholarships on higher education for potential Adivasi boys and girls in a proportional manner.
- Revitalize the sense of Adivasi identity and facilitate its reflection through different activities (cultural) locally and nationally through research and promotional measures.

Objective:

Poor marginalized people are establishing their entitlement in productive resources (Khas 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* (Government-owned fallow land) Land, *Jal-mohal* (Water Bodies), Forest Resources, etc.
- Introduce counseling within existing projects on availing productive resources supported by local level advocacy with the GOB agencies and national level policy advocacy and lobbying with the legislative, executive and judiciary.

3. Health and Care**Objective:**

Health care facilities exist and 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.
- Join and support the local and national level advocacy campaign for "Health for All".

Objective:

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

Strategies:

- Continue with the motivational and logistics supply-based initiatives for safe water and sanitation and environmental hygiene.
- Introduce tested alternative access to safe rain and surface water through storage and conservation respectively.
- 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:

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

Strategies:

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

Objective:

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, visiting immigrants) vulnerable to HIV/AIDS and ensure accessibility for them.
- Introduce awareness and motivational initiatives for the community and staff on HIV/AIDS.

Objective:

People are active to prevent others being disabled and to promote caring for disabled.

Strategy:

- Continue and expand awareness campaign on disability prevention.
- 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 disabled.
- Integrate disability-related issues and care into Caritas programming through nationally applicable policy measures.

Objective:

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

Strategy:

- 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.
4. Ensure Ecological Sustainability through Appropriate Use of Natural Resources and Capacity Building in Disaster Management.

Objective:

People and relevant institutions are responsive at all stages (pre disaster, during disaster and post disaster) towards preparedness, rescue and rehabilitation and availing humanitarian assistance and necessary resources from different sources.

Strategies:

- To continue with use of the existing manual and maintaining the SPHERE standard for disaster management in providing humanitarian assistance (pre, during and after disaster).
- Improve the awareness and coping capacity of the people in the most disaster-prone areas of Caritas Bangladesh.
- Join and support national level initiative to mitigate disasters (including earthquake and socio-politically-induced man-made disaster).

Objective:

People and relevant institutions are aware of the inter-relationship between the state of the environment and way of life and are mobilized towards conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

Strategies:

- Undertake awareness campaign regarding the inter-relationship between the extent of environmental degradation in the south (Sundarban, Fisheries) and in the north (Barind tracts) and human behavior towards conservation of natural resources.
- Define and develop environmental ethics to family, community and national level.
- Join and support initiatives to develop broad-based awareness for policy initiatives to review and enforce environmental laws and conventions.
- Replicate present learning and good practices for sustainable use of natural resources (soil, forest, water body, etc.) in other environmentally degraded areas.