

Asian Wetland Symposium (AWS) Saga 2017
Wetlands and CEPA/ESD Session

Efforts and Challenges for Coastal Stability and Conservation with Proper Natural Resources Management in Sundarbans Region, Bangladesh

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1. Outline of Bangladesh



Rice cropping



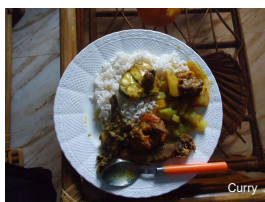
Tea plantation



Wetland



Natural disaster like cyclone



Curry

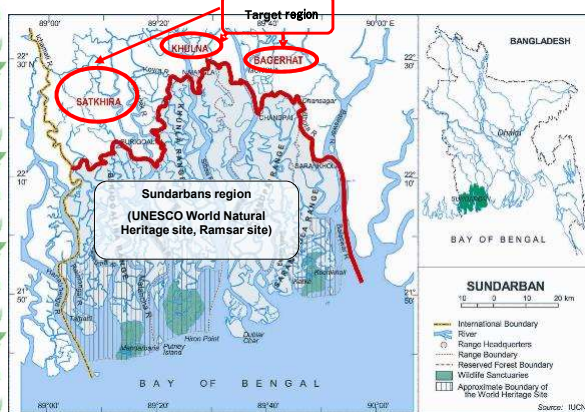


Drinking water



Dry fuel made in domestic animal wastes

2. Outline of The Sundarbans



Symbiosis between nature and human beings, benefitting richly from mangrove forest and biodiversity

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3. Issues of Target Region

- (1) Insufficient of biodiversity conservation education for local people and lack of proper natural resources management due to the unsustainable and overexploitation of its' resources by forest dwellers.
- (2) Difficulties in making earnings due to the poverty and lack of alternative livelihood scopes in the limited life environment.



Bangladesh Environment and Development Society (BEDS), and Japan Environmental Education Forum (JEEF) have taken initiatives to mitigate those problems by living good harmony with nature, creating community based organization for ensuring local participation in nature conservation and livelihood improvement, starting from January 2013.

Especially, we have conducted the following main activities focused on the viewpoints of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)



Destruction of environment



Poverty

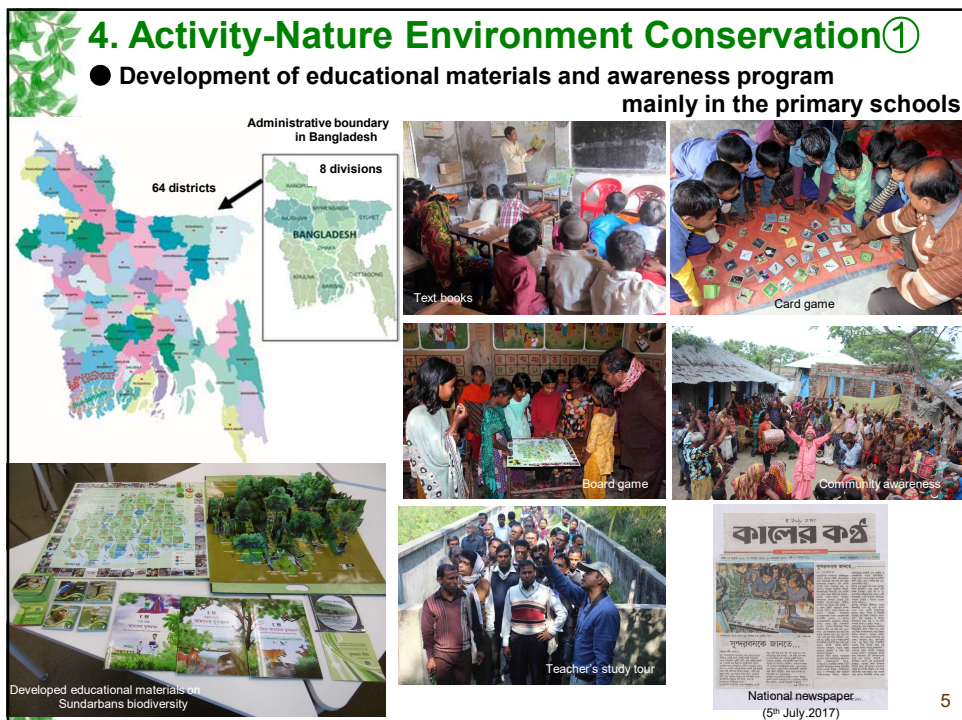


Workshop with BEDS and JEEF

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4. Activity-Nature Environment Conservation①

- Development of educational materials and awareness program mainly in the primary schools



Administrative boundary in Bangladesh

64 districts

8 divisions

BANGLADESH

Text books

Card game

Board game

Community awareness

Developed educational materials on Sundarbans biodiversity

Teacher's study tour

কালের কণ্ঠ

সুন্দরবনে কলসে...

National newspaper (5th July 2017)

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4. Activity-Nature Environment Conservation②

- Conservation awareness program along coastal and wetland regions including dolphin and turtle, targeting fishermen, primary and secondary students



Training program for dolphin conservation

Patrol by eco-club

Drawing contest

Public awareness program in the community on International Biodiversity Day

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4. Activity-Nature Environment Conservation③

● Participatory tree planting like Mangrove and Moringa



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4. Activity-Improvement of Living

● Family gardening efforts for improving nourishment and introduction of improved cooking stove by fishermen



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4. Activity-Livelihood Improvement①

● Commercial development of natural honey and mangrove fruit pickles (NTPF)



4. Activity-Livelihood Improvement②

● Development of community-based eco-tourism



4. Activity-Building the Collaborative Networks

- Holding the multi-stakeholder meetings for building the collaborative networks and exchanging opinions with community people to support Sundarbans effectively



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5. Conclusion

Lessons on the Wetlands and CEPA / ESD to conduct proper natural resources management from project sites in Sundarbans of Bangladesh:

- Approach with comprehensive and multifaceted viewpoints such as nature environment conservation, living support, livelihood improvement, building collaborative network, etc.
- Involve multi-stakeholders like government, company, community people (especially, social vulnerable people such as children, females), university professors, school teachers, NGO, etc.
- Provide the opportunities to conduct follow-up trainings for community people continuously.
- Encourage community people's initiative by introducing experience-based training.
- Institutionalize local people such as cooperative society and eco-club, etc. for sustainable nature environment and livelihood improvement activities.
- Find local brand like natural blessings and activate the region by making the most of it.
- Community planning and human resource development with co-management of public and private sectors in Sundarbans.
- Submit activity reports containing recommendation with real voice of local people after finishing any projects.

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6. Future Direction

- ◆ Vision 2021 was the political manifesto of the Bangladesh Awami League party in 2008. The main goal is for Bangladesh to become a middle income country where poverty will be completely eradicated by 2021.
- ◆ Achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS 17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



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Thank you very much for your attention!

