

ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022



Realizing Land Governance for and with People Towards Emancipation



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (CDA)



Annual Report

2021-2022

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Acronyms

CDA	Community Development Association
LGI	Local Government Institutions
SOLAR	Sustainable Organization for Land Rights and Agrarian Reform
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
ICESC&C&PHR	International Covenant of Economic Social Cultural & Civil & Political Human Rights
GO	Government Organization
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NGOAB	NGO Affairs Bureau
POs	Peoples Organizations
ULCC	Union Landless Coordination Committee
TLCC/UzLCC	Thana/Upa-Zilla Landless Coordination Committee
DLCC	District Landless Coordination Committee
FPOs	Federation of Peoples Organization
UMC	Unit Management Committee
UMAC	Unit Management Advisory Council
PWD	Peoples With Disability
VGD	Vulnerable Group Development
VGf	Vulnerable Group Feeding
DA	Disable Allowance
IPs	Indigenous Peoples
LD	Legal Document
DCR	Duplicate Carbon Receipt
POC	Program Operation Cell
ALRD	Association of Land Reforms and Development
PLA_{NET}	People, Land and Agrarian Reforms in Northern Ecological Territory
ANGOC	Asian NGO Coalition
ILC	International Land Coalition



Chairperson's Foreword

The process of development with broad participation of people is commonly addressed to design holistically the community development program for promoting participatory development involving devolution of responsibilities and relocation of work within local Governance, intended to enable people to exert influence indirectly or it is represented with more community based development endeavors by which people participate directly through their own organization. Program of this nature virtually always emphasizes Organization Building like Peoples Organizations.



Moreover, institutional qualities and abilities in broader senses are frequently sought to be promoted through some forms of Community involvement is evidently as "Social Mobilization".

CDA has been emphasizing its mission and strategies, structure and the process to implement the various rights based program through people centered land governance by institution building for ensuring land rights along with other fundamental rights for or with grass-roots vulnerable rural poor aiming to ensuring to access and control over the natural resources at the door steps.

CDA's institution building program is a core, in which the building communities in each village is very influential and empowered to alleviate poverty, inequalities and for building just Society, during long last CDA facilitates to mobilize for land rights, land use and land reforms in association with such village based Peoples Organizations with the inclusion of the landless poor men, women, youth, IPs & other excluded people of this region successfully.

I do appreciate such an effective facilitated measures documented in this Annual Report 2021-2022 by CDA with the support from all types of CDA Members, Staff, Donors, Partners, Local, National, Regional and Global Networks, UNDP and the Government Officials of the People's Republic of Bangladesh as well.

All the best

Advocate Md. Azizul Islam.
Chairperson, CDA



Letter from the Executive Director



Institution Building for the poor in local communities are strengthened with diversified measures complementary to the building of organizations in which such people participated to assist local Government Authorities to formulate new orders, Laws and Regulations or Reformulation for securing access to public land and to any other common natural resources and also aiming to promote a convergence mechanism at each local Government tiers so that the protect or protest, respect and remedies are ensured.

CDA is accountable to facilitate to building up such a mechanism from the village level to constituency level by the side of the local level Government tiers to wider pursuits as Institution building of POs in the name of PARALLELLOGRAM which are being functionally strengthened the organizational units for accelerating the livelihood program as well as to initiate people centered advocacy for the broader Policy mobilization, activate the inactive Laws and Regulations including Reformulation and under taking various measures to practice and popularize the UDHR-ICESC & Civil & Political Human Rights values for the national interest.

Organization building and Institution building are both refer to the perspective on capacity building. Organization building is the means of participation for organizing with the people and Institution building is the participation for empowering the people by themselves, considering the above aspects CDA has been aiming to accelerate its mission-strategies over the years for more development work commensurate with the land rights as human rights which helps to create and strengthen other village organizations in the name of Peoples Organizations adopted as a core of ILC's new strategy to realize a People Centered Governance to make a just, equitable and sustainable world this is a great achievement of CDA.

In conclusion, I on behalf of CDA Management would like to acknowledge those who have given the efforts to prepare such an Annual Report 2021-2022 with the potential inputs and the outcomes are used as the institutional growth and also facilitation to the representatives of the donors, back donors, Government and NGO's officials, PLANET & other Network Members in home and abroad to make success the program of CDA during the reporting year.

We remain,

Shah I Mobin Jinnah
Founding Executive Director/CEO/ Member-Secretary-CDA



Executive Summary

Community Development Association (CDA) passed a year of unpredictability. COVID-19 and the 'new normal' brought about by the pandemic's all-encompassing impact has accentuated inequalities to worryingly new levels. The historic trend towards declining poverty has seen a pause, if not a reversal. Significant numbers have been pushed below poverty and the 'new poor' has become a major focus of policy debates. Having weathered two year of the disruptions caused by COVID-19, Bangladesh is now struggling under a new wave. Food security, economy and inequality all stand upended by uncertainties which appear to see no end in sight. Rural Poor People were starting to get back to their feet and were starting to come out of the poverty cycle. Bangladesh was on the verge to eliminate extreme poverty and graduate as a lower-middle income country.

CDA has designed a concept of development program based on land rights approach through local context, conflict analysis, and identify the manifestations of the poverty, inequalities and the causes of disempowerment along with the rationales for building-up the influence of People Centered Land Governance and it has been implementing it since 2010. Accordingly, CDA has been facilitating the designed program with some of the concrete strategic direction through "Sustainable Organization for Land Rights and Agrarian Reform (SOLAR)" for changing the plight of the below 70% vulnerable resource poor in its current working areas.

CDA has been facilitating various types of Inputs to strengthen the Village Based Peoples Organizations (POs):

- ◆ CDA facilitated to mobilize Landless poor people in a para-level groups/samity(s), for the formation of village based Landless Peoples Organizations (PO).
 - ◆ Raising awareness on the Human Rights related issues in their respective villages/local and national contexts.
 - ◆ Facilitated to identify Khas land, mobilized their own resources, developed integrated planning and mapping, and built up local networks for engagement of civil society.
 - ◆ Capacity building training conducted for human resource development of Peoples Organizations.
 - ◆ Provided training on sustainable organization and alternative leadership development, local government services, land rights and the role of land administration, financial management, land rights, land laws and land administration and advocacy through PO-mobilization.
 - ◆ Facilitated to conduct Meetings with Union Parishad Chairman, meetings with Local administration officials to ensure the accessibility towards social safety net services.
- CDA's Institution building process is a unique solidarity building process with the resource poor within from the village to a constituency level vertically led by Peoples



Organizations with six tiers parallel to six different Local Government Administrative levels with a view to promote a transparent convergence mechanism in distributing Khas land and access to other natural and public resources. Community solidarity inspires people in changing their oppressed situation by applying their own knowledge-power-strength and assists to promote an applied socio-political framework instituted with the human rights culture and values can ensure protection, respect and remedies through such a potential mechanism which is viable to make the effective social mobilization and people centered advocacy from the grassroots level.

CDA has firmly kept its focus on the poor, landless, vulnerable and marginal groups who have been disproportionately affected by the systematic poverty and pandemic. Holistic Community Development programs as well as the entire CDA staff have shown extraordinary resilience against extraordinary difficulties. Challenges remain, but CDA and its staff, from field office to the central, have been tested and emerged stronger. Staff and organizational capacities have been re-purposed where necessary. A Convergence approach, both with the government and Peoples Organizations (Parallelogram) members along with CDA has been pursued wherever these have been seen as meaningful. CDA has led the way in energizing Peoples engagement in overcome the consequences on Land Rights issues with the eyes of Land Rights as Human Rights. Holistic community development model have been kept effective for Peoples Organizations members through Parallelogram played a major role towards the larger goal of recovery. Programs went the extra mile to engage with new vulnerabilities-Landlessness, unemployment and new poor. CDA's focus in each case has been to explore the ideas of using of outputs as innovations that address specific needs and have the potential for larger impacts.

Pandemic, climate change and inequalities have marked the start of a new decade. The rural poor people are impatient for meaningful answers to each of these. CDA will have to address both the challenges of the present and the future simultaneously. CDA is going to develop a new edge to strategic planning. This initiative will hopefully strengthen scenario planning engagements on emerging priorities such as climate change & how to provide its resilience strategically.

CDA has given priority to the national and global agenda and has been participated to incorporate Government policies and plan into CDA's development action plans. However, CDA is not contained with limited issues; Instead, CDA has been working to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) from several prioritized dimension-Poverty, Zero Hunger, Gender Equality, Decent work and Economic growth, Required Inequalities, Life on Land, Peace, Justice and strong Institution along with ILC's commitment, CEDAW, UDHR, Paris Declaration along with Land Rights with the eyes of Human Rights **"No One Left Behind"** based our realizing land Governance for and with people towards emancipation.



SHARED VISION

“An United Agrarian Society”

through People Centred Land Governance which is socially just and free from all discrimination, Human Rights are ensured and communities are economically productive within ecologically balanced Environment along with Gender equality.

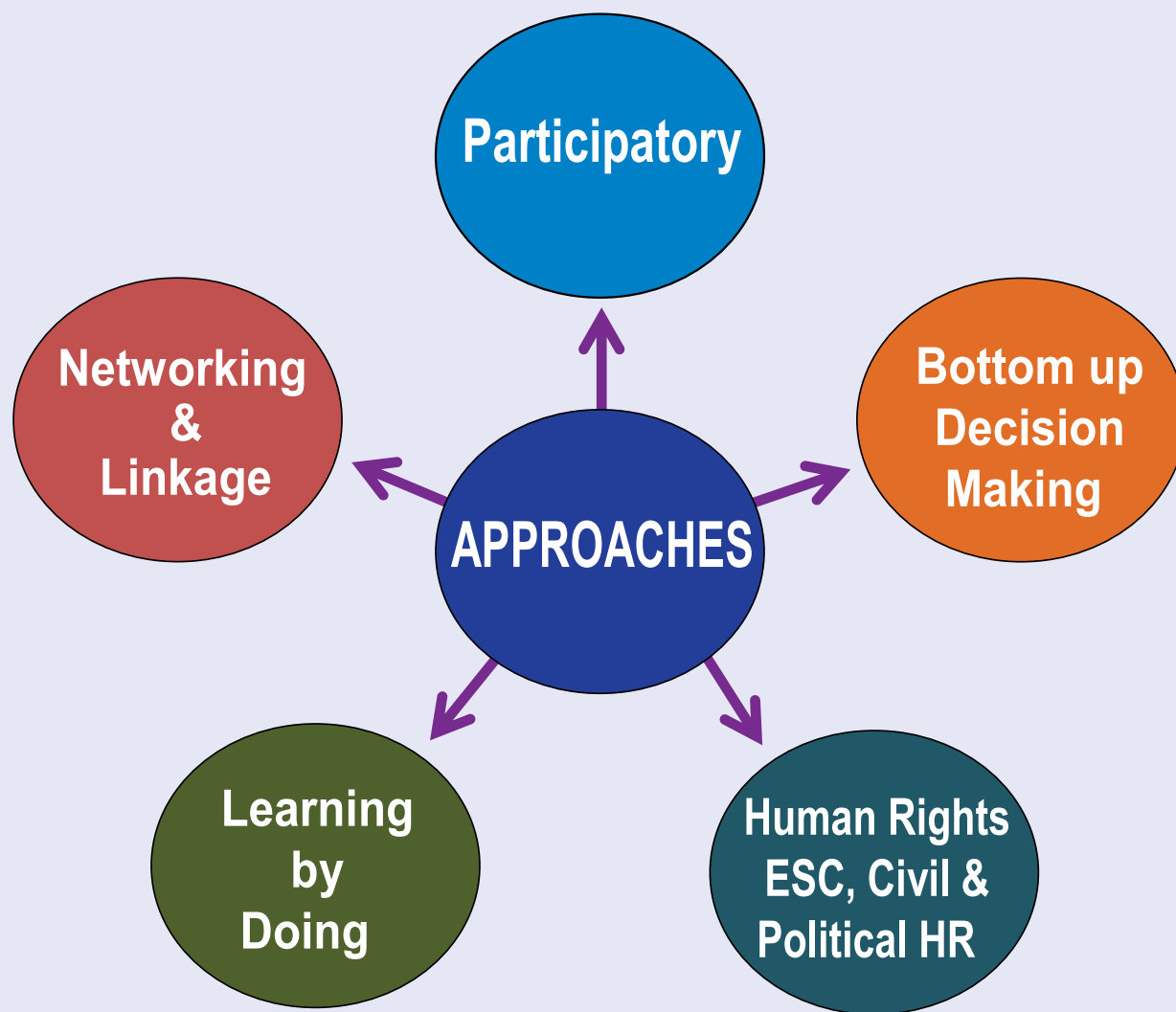
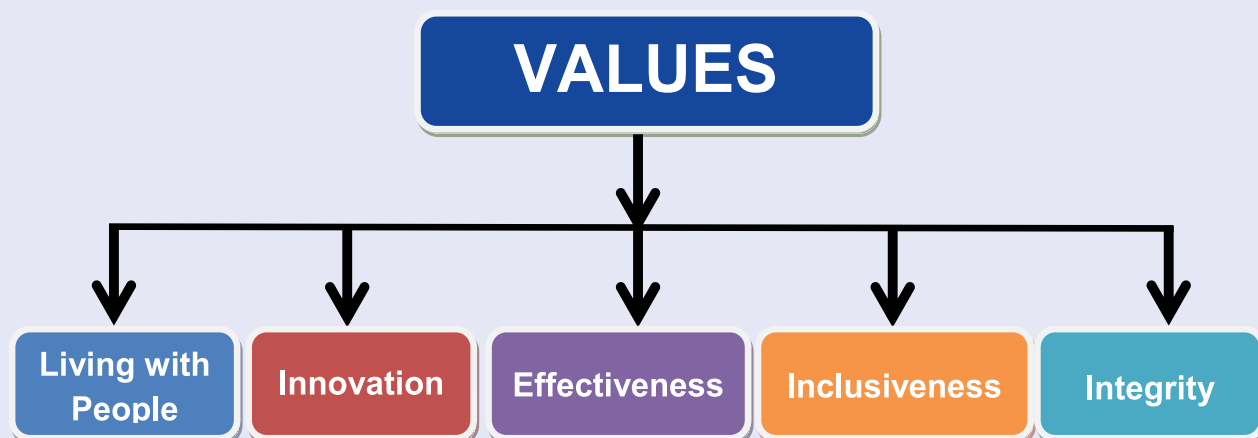
MISSION

“Building Institutions”

includes the rural disempowered landless poor (men & women), Agril-labor, Marginal Peasants, Differently Able, Old-Age, Ethnic & Religious minorities and Indigenous Peoples ensuring and securing access to and control over the Public & Natural resources at the door step.

STRATEGIES







CDA's Working Area

Map of Dinajpur District



CDA's Working Area

Map of Thakurgaon District





2021-2022 at a Glance

5223 Families of

Peoples Organizations graduated from extreme poverty through access to and Control over KHAS (Public) land and IGAs on land use.





28931 Members of Peoples Organizations
(Including **14672** Women, **1700** IPs and
1960 Persons with Disabilities) reached
through skills and human resource capacity
development training and interventions in
decent work.

1965 Members of Peoples Organizations Families' access to and control over **110.93** acres of KHAS (Public) land.





136 Women headed
Families of Peoples
Organizations have
access to and *control*
over **7.16** acres of
KHAS (Public) land.





138

**IP Families
have access
to and
control over
18.50 acres
of KHAS land
for Housing,
Agriculture
and Water
bodies.**

24

**Disable
Families
have access
to and
control over
2.07 acres
of KHAS
land for
Housing,
Agriculture
and Water
bodies.**



4300 Members of Peoples Organizations
made aware upon the
Legal Rights and provided Legal Aid Support.



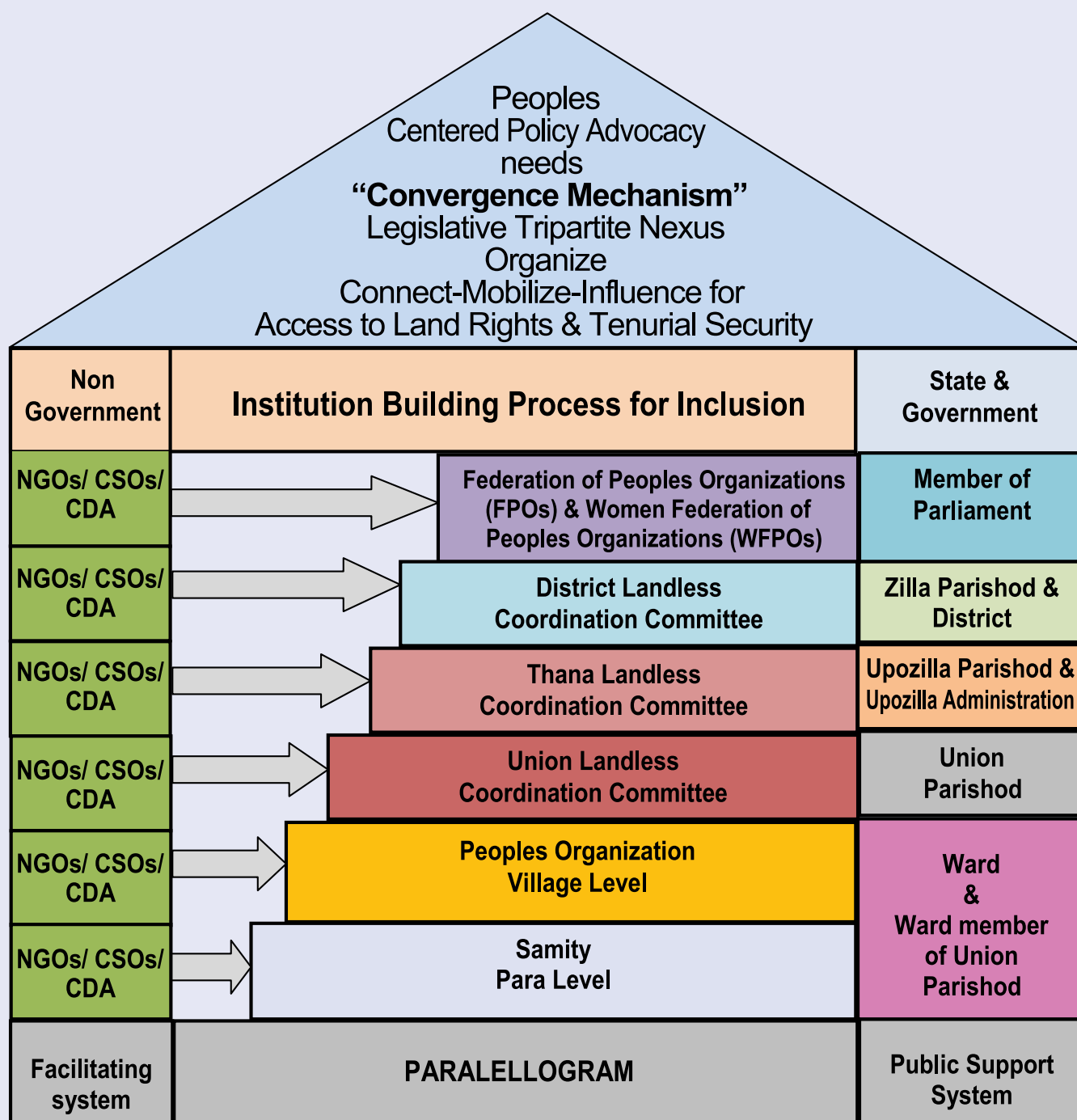


2202 Members of Peoples Organizations initiated inputs for Organic Family Farming in their homestead land.





1016 Women
Members of
Peoples
Organizations
preserved local
indigenous
seed for
Family Farming.





***United
(Dis) empowered
landless people
has broken a long
chain of poverty***

Kornai-SarkarPara, is a remote village from Pirgonj Upazila (Sub-district) under Thakurgaon District. The Kornai Village stands on the bank of Tangon river. 70% people were landless and disorganized. They had been living under below poverty line. They did not get three times meal daily and they had neither resources nor identity or dignity. About 40 nos. of landless poor families had been leading their life in a complex ecosystem.

In the year 2017 Community Development Association (CDA) went to the village to organize a village based planning program for the landless poor people at the bottom level. Strategically, CDA planned to organize the landless people adopting a policy to unite them in 4 nos. of small groups namely Samity within the eyes of Gender equality and finally made a Peoples Organization (PO) “Kornai Peoples Organization” total 160 members (male 65 female 95). CDA raised awareness among them about the Right to Land, Human Rights and how they will promote and sustain their livelihood by their own initiative. The Organized landless people identified 33 acres of Khas land near the bank of Tangoan River.

In association with the powerful people, some land grabbers grabbed and kept illegally this land since long.

In 2018 the landless united poor people decided to go there and get the possession of the land rather very strongly to live on the land permanently. On the other hand, the land grabbers threatened and filed 17 false cases in police station. The united landless poor people distributed khas land among the poor men and women equally and have been fighting against the false cases till now. Most of the (false) cases, the poor people win.

However, they did not get their possession paper yet but landless poor people access and controlled over the land and established their identity, dignity inclusion and they eat their daily meal without uncertainty.

In the year 2022, the People’s Organization members built their own office room at their village. The united Peoples Organization members meet in every week at their own office and discuss the current context and generated saving as regular basis and forming a sustainable people Organization leading towards their sustainable livelihood.



Indigenous Women Empowered Through Institution Building

In association and support from **Community Development Association (CDA)** 97 Indigenous women Samity (s) (Peoples Organization) of the CDA working area trying to get together in Dinajpur and Thakurgaon District in North-Western part under the Rangpur Division of Bangladesh. In this regard at first Indigenous women is united in a small group in a particular village and with the support from CDA instituted 97 small organizations which are called 'Somities'. At the lowest level there are likeminded small groups known as somity (s) at the para level within the village. Each Somity consisted with 20 members and each 'Somity' has their own Executive Committee elected by their own by-laws and they use to practice have taken all kind of decision in somity level (bottom up approach).

Afterward, greater solidarity of 97 Somity(s) decided to make a common platform which is namely 'Indigenous Women Federation of People Organization (IWFPO)'. All members of the samities are automatically treated as the members of the Federation at the constituency level. The highest level of the Federation is 'General Body'. The 'General Body' is consisted with all members of 'Somity'. From, among the 'General Body' members an 'Executive Body' is formed with 21 members. The 'Executive Body' is the highest decision making body of the Federation. In Annual General Meeting (AGM) the General Body to elect the Chairperson, Vice Chairpersons, General Secretary, Assistant General Secretary and Treasurer and rest of the Executive Members are elected following democratic process. The EC members are elected for a period of two years following the IWFPOs by-laws by themselves.

PO's Executive Committee (EC) consisted with a Chairperson, a General Secretary and a Treasurer from each Samity are nominated as the PO Executive Members. Members of the EC usually elect a Chairperson, a General Secretary and a Treasurer from amongst their members following the selection criteria that the position of either Chairperson or Vice-chairperson must be a woman.

Land Rights

The majority of the rural poor in Bangladesh are landless. Most of them are living in Northern region of the country. The lack of land ownership and inequalities in access to land poverty, hunger, and disempowerment resulted to the violation of human rights creates criminalization and corruption are the causes of bad governance. Gender inequality in land rights are the cause of domestic violence. No legislative protection and recognition of indigenous people's right upon their ancestral land.

The Land administration system in Bangladesh is not well-defined. It is beset with multiple defects and problems. About 80% of criminal offenses are stemmed from land disputes. A majority of them are the landless and rural people, who are deprived from their rights to justice due to their financial stringencies and lack of united power among landless people.

CDA is accountable to facilitate community-based Peoples Organizations to support landless local communities to ensure & secure Khas land. The peoples' organizations and CDA facilitated to support legal action for the protection of the local communities and for their land rights.

CDA mobilized local communities to form POs to demand their access to land rights and other agrarian rights and services. The POs are organized the local communities to raise voice and created a basis of legal action.

After analysing all possible tenure systems by other stakeholders to address their land claims, the local communities occupied Khas lands (housing & agriculture) and water bodies that rightfully belonged to them and persevered through intimidation by the local elites. The occupation of Khas land and water bodies resulted in local elites claiming ownership of the land whilst relying on fake title deeds.



Land Rights aligning with SDGs/ HRs



Land Right as Human Rights

“We didn’t have any, neither resource nor identity or dignity but now we all resource -less (powerless) people are united at our village level. We made peoples power resulting we access 3.77 acres of KHAS land. We are now living with dignity and we eat daily meals without uncertainty.....”

Nurjahan Begum

Secretary, Giridharpur Peoples Organization, Giridharpur, Birol, Dinajpur

Giridharpur, a village with natural beauty located under Dhamuir Union in Birol Upazila (sub-district) of Dinajpur District. Most of the villagers were landless. 49 families live on others land but they came to know that there had land in the village and the status of the land is Khas land. In this situation, they share information with the members of neighboring Peoples Organizations and CDA’s village facilitator who conduct meeting with them and discussed their problems and adopted some measures for solution. CDA village facilitator provides information upon Khas land that only landless people have the rights on Government owned Land/Khas land. The members of Peoples Organization were in- sighted through the information, they built communication with local land identified to measuring 6.77 acres of khas land in Giridharpur village and once land were under the possession of fake owners. Landless people went to the fake owners several times and requested to leave their possession but they denied and threatened the landless in different ways. In this situation, members of the Peoples Organization

called a General meeting and took decision to recover the land. It was not an easy task to fight against the powerful people with land grabbing. So, they invited the other landless neighboring Peoples Organizations from other villages. United landless people took possession on 3.77 acres out of 6.77 acres. Now the land is under the use and control of the landless people of Giridharpur Peoples Organization. Land grabbers and fake owners lodged five false cases against the landless peoples. CDA provided them legal aid support where three cases judgment have finished and landless people win three cases and other two cases are to be continued till judgment. Now Peoples Organization members cultivate these 3.77 acres of land collectively. However, they did not get their possession paper yet but landless poor people access and controlled over the land and established their identity, dignity inclusion and they eat their daily meal without uncertainty.

A Monitoring Report on Land Conflicts to defense of Land Rights in Bangladesh

Land governance is defined as "the rules, processes and structures through which decisions are made about access to land and its use, manner in which the decisions are implemented and enforced, and the way that competing interests in land are managed" (FAO, emphasis supplied). As such, the definition of land governance involves three key elements, namely: (i) a set of rules, processes and structures, whether these are defined by legal, customary or traditional systems; (ii) decisions on land distribution, access and use, including the enforcement of rights; and, (iii) management of conflict due to competing interests on land. It is widely recognized that land being a fixed and limited resource is an inherent source of conflict. Yet, any study of land conflict should also view and address the broader contexts in which land policies, structures and processes have evolved, and how land is allocated, and rights are protected and enforced considering the above, CDA with the lead support from ANGOC/LWA/ILC jointly took an initiative to prepare a monitoring report on land conflicts in Bangladesh during last two years achieve the following specific aims and Objectives.

Aims:

This assessment study aims to contribute towards a better understanding of land and resource conflicts that impinge on human rights, by providing evidence-based data for policy - towards the prevention and resolution of such conflicts.

Specific Objectives:

1. To describe the prevalence and nature of land and resource conflicts in the country;
2. To discuss the impacts and outcomes of land and resource conflicts on local communities and on land rights defenders;
3. To examine the nature and causes of land and resource conflicts;
4. To assess the effectiveness of existing conflict resolution mechanisms in the country.

Types of land conflict:

It is also important to differentiate between two types of land and resource conflicts as follows:

- ♦ A "land dispute" involves conflicting claims to rights in land by two or more parties, focused on a particular piece of land or resource, which can be addressed within the existing legal framework. These may include cases involving inheritance, boundary disputes, legal titles, and commercial transactions. Such land disputes may or may not reflect some broader conflict over land.
- ♦ By contrast, a "structural land conflict" involves competing claims to large areas of land by groups, of a breadth and depth not easily resolved within existing law. There is often no consensus on the rules to be applied, and the parties may have quite different understandings of the nature of the conflict. As used by studies in this paper, "conflict" implies tension and the danger of violence, but not necessarily violence itself, unless this is specifically mentioned. Latent conflicts based on structural or other fundamental problems may be triggered by events to turn violent.



Context of Bangladesh

1.Land and People:

Bangladesh is a low-lying, mainly riverine country, with almost 80 percent of the country consisting of fertile alluvial lowland. Historically, highly complex and elaborate land tenure and tenancy systems developed in the rich alluvial plains of the Bengali Region. Some 60 percent of the land is under agriculture, and 64 percent of the populations are in rural areas. With one of the world's most dense populations (1,265 people/km) and given the scarcity of land, Bangladesh has been marked by land conflicts.

Moreover, the country is highly vulnerable to natural hazards (floods, tropical cyclones, storm surges, erosion, and drought) and to the effects of climate change - which sometimes lead to destruction of housing and property, loss of livelihoods, displacement, and migration.

2.Land Ownership Structure:

Rural poor sectors - landless poor and marginalized peasants, indigenous peoples, fisherfolk, and female-headed households - comprise majority of the rural population yet they are often constrained in accessing land and resources. Land ownership is highly skewed - 60 percent of all Bangladeshi households are functionally landless, owning only 4.2 percent of lands, while about 6.2 percent are rich landowners that own 40 to 45 percent of lands (Barkat and Surawardy, 2018). Landlessness has been on an increasing trend in recent decades.

3.Land Reforms:

The country has a rich history of land rights movements. During the period of Indian partition, the East Bengal State Acquisition and Tenancy Act of 1950 (EBSATA) abolished the zamindari (intermediary rent-collectors) system earlier established under British Rule and gave the control of land back to their tillers. Subsequent land reform laws also provided for tenure

Security of sharecroppers, established a minimum daily wage for agricultural labor, and stipulated sharecropping arrangements between landowner and tenants. There were brief periods of land reform in 1972 and 1991, but the implementation of reforms was protracted under a succession of civilian governments, military coups, and military regimes. Government lacked the political will to recover all ceiling surplus lands, and many landowners circumvented the law through illegal land transactions and corruption.

4.Water Rights and land issues in the CHT:

In Bangladesh, discussions about land conflict includes disputes over access to water bodies and inland fisheries, as about 11 percent of the total population, or over 17 million people are involved in fisheries for their livelihood, majority of them on seasonal basis (FAO, 2016).



Also, the historical encroachment into Indigenous Peoples lands in the plains and the hills has continued unabated, with a major portion of IP lands already land-grabbed. State-sponsored migrations and plantations (tea, rubber, horticulture) into the Chittagong Hill Tracts, along with heavy militarization, have changed the region's demography, with most of the indigenous peoples already displaced and with large numbers having fled into neighboring India.

5.KHAS lands:

5 As of 2014, the total Khas land and water bodies under the government is over two million hectares, of which only about 24 percent are agricultural lands. The rest are inland water bodies (24 percent) and non- agricultural land (52 percent) that are located mostly in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. Yet, only a portion of valuable agricultural Khas lands were distributed, and these often involved the payment of bribes and corruption. Much of the khas lands supposedly under government custody for distribution to the landless, have been illegally occupied by rich peasants. Also, only five percent of the Khas water bodies have been leased out to poor fisher folk, as 95 percent of Khas water bodies have been grabbed by local elites.

The Bangladesh government is also currently custodian of some 850,000 hectares of land under the Vested Property Act, plus some 405,000 hectares under the Abandoned Property Act (Barkat, 2007). These consist of lands confiscated by the government from fleeing Hindu families following the Indian partition of 1947. However, these lands have not been returned to their rightful owners despite a Supreme Court ruling in 2001.

6.Legal Disputes:

Meanwhile, land-related conflicts are common, and land cases continue to clog the judicial courts. About two million hectares of land are currently under litigation, while land related cases need an average of 9.5 years for settlement.

<p>146 land related laws 80% cases over land 25 lakh cases pending 9.5 yrs on average for disposal of a case 23.5 lakh acres of land are disputed Annual household losses Tk 11,520 crore Tk 24,860 crore spent on land cases a year</p>	<p>The numbers of land cases are increasing every day. People have to spend almost 3 billion USD (Tk 24,860 crore) a year to resolve these cases. Disposal of a case takes nine and a half years on average, meaning it would require 27,000 (2.70 crore) years to dispose of the 2.5 million (25 lakh) pending cases (The Daily Star, 23 December 2015, citing a study of Barkat, 2015)</p>
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Nature of land conflict in Bangladesh

Conflicts over all types of property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Inheritance and ancestral land conflicts ❑ Boundary conflicts ❑ Conflicts over overlapping rights (indigenous rights vs. statutory laws, such as between Bengali settlers and IPs in CHT and plain lands) ❑ Conflicts due to lack of land registration, i.e. 45.2 percent unregistered documents in cases of inherited land parcels (BRAC HRLS-PRI, 2014) ❑ Conflicts between State and private/collective owners due to unclear and non-transparent land demarcation ❑ Multiple sales/allocations of land ❑ Limited access to land due to discrimination by law, custom or practice ❑ Peaceful and informal land acquisitions without evictions ❑ Violent land acquisitions ❑ Evictions by landowners ❑ Illegal evictions by State officials acting without mandate ❑ Establishment of tea gardens and Eco Parks/social forestry ❑ Commercialization of land and unplanned development projects ❑ Disputes over the payment for using/buying land ❑ Disputes over land value ❑ Destruction of property (pre-grabbing for dispossession, ex. violent attacks and burning)
Conflicts over private property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Eviction by the State without compensation ❑ Sales of other's property ❑ Leasing/renting disputes ❑ Agrarian reform issues ❑ Intra-family conflicts, especially in the case of polygamy ❑ Indigenous people's land is falsely recorded as Vested Property
Conflicts over collective/ common property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Competing, illegal, or improper uses of collective land ❑ Unauthorized sales of collectively owned property ❑ Disputes over the distribution of revenue from collective land
Conflicts over State property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Competing, illegal, or improper uses of State property ❑ Land grabbing by politicians, public officials and other influential persons ❑ Illegal sales/lease of State land like forests, mines, and concession land to be used by the Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (WASA), city corporations ❑ Improper land privatization (e.g. unfair land distribution or titling)

Land conflict victims and perpetrators

Land conflict victims		Perpetrators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landless poor people ▪ Agricultural labors ▪ Construction workers ▪ Tea garden workers ▪ Small peasants ▪ Migrants ▪ Slum dwellers ▪ Marginalized people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Women and girls ▪ Children ▪ Old-aged people ▪ Indigenous people in both hill and plain lands ▪ Persons with disabilities ▪ Occupational minorities ▪ Transgender people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Political leaders ▪ Influential persons/groups ▪ Local administration and government officials, bureaucrats ▪ Military and para-military forces ▪ Police ▪ Land grabbers ▪ Agriculture investors

POLICY IMPLICATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

To Government

- Repeal discriminatory laws against marginalized people- such as against women's land and inheritance rights, and against indigenous peoples land entitlements before any reforms like formulation of a comprehensive land policy or land governance system.
- Enact a specific law to prevent land grabbing and ensure quick resolution of land disputes.
- Establish an independent land commission for the plain land indigenous people to protect their land human rights and resolve land disputes.
- Strengthen the CHT Land Disputes Resolution Commission and enforce its law and rules.
- Enact laws and formulate a mechanism to protect land rights defenders.
- Check corruption, irregularities, and bribes at land administration, courts and police stations.
- Take initiative to withdraw false cases over land conflicts and stop police or administrative harassments against land rights holders and defenders.
- Cancel lease of land among companies/corporations/political and non-political influential groups for violation of land-human rights.
- Ensure people-centered land governance and digitalization of land management system.
- National Human Rights Commission can act as a negotiator to resolve land disputes by engaging political parties, CSOs and other GO-NGO stakeholders.
- Fast-track the resolution of land related cases at courts.
- Strengthen local mediation mechanisms to resolve land conflicts.



- Establish a 24-hour service-based unit/cell with hotlines under the Land Ministry to monitor land conflicts, take immediate actions against land grabbers and protect victims and defenders.
- A mobile court led by the executive magistrate can be run under the unit/cell to stop land grabbing and protect victims.

To CSOs/NGOs:

- Popularize land rights as human rights and business and human rights.
- Monitor land conflicts continuously and publish land conflict monitoring reports periodically and annually.
- Formulate and implement a strategic plan to reduce land-human rights violation and to assist victims and land rights defenders.
- Build public solidarity and support especially in cases of large-scale land grabbing and evictions due to land acquisitions that violate land-human rights.
- Empower affected communities and strengthen their organizations particularly landless and small producers.
- Improve reporting and response mechanisms to land conflicts. Monitor business interests that affect land rights.
- Undertaking strategic communication program engaging local land administration, CSOs, political leaders, landless people and marginalized farmers to resolve land disputes.
- Establish independent People's Institutions to investigate land conflicts, including the conduct of businesses and the role of the State, towards the protection of people's rights.





Environment–Ecology and Sustainable Land Use

CDA's Environment–Ecology and Sustainable Land Use program focus on the following areas: Sensitization to inform the people of the issues and consequences, alternative practices to allow people to make a difference at practical grassroots level, mobilize and advocacy to demand good practices at all level and finally legislation to add enforcement and deterrent.



A Collective initiative towards Climate Change

Rahima, Karfun, Monowara Begum with thirty six helpless Women live in Gangua village in Ranisonkail Upazila (Sub-District) of Thakurgaon District. Selling labour in agricultural field is the main sources of income of their family and sometimes they hired rent land for cultivating crops. Like others, farmers of this area habituated to use chemical fertilizers and pesticides for production of crops. It was not environment friendly rather they had to spend extra money to buy such Chemical fertilizers and

pesticides. So, the family could not make profit from crop cultivation. In these circumstances, being informed in the meeting of Peoples Organization that CDA has provided Training on Organic Fertilizer (vermi compost) and Herbal Pesticide preparation among themselves.

After that CDA provided them financial assistance for construction of permanent structure to produce Organic Fertilizer (vermi compost) & preparation.



Helpless women (Peoples Organization members) start organic fertilizers production in their villages collectively. In the financial year 2021-2022, they produce 30000 (thirty thousands) kg. 10000 (ten thousands) kg vermi compost using in their own crop field and 20000 (twenty thousands) kg has sold in local market and other farmers and earned 250000/= taka (two lac fifty thousand taka). Now helpless women are not vulnerable. They are aware

harmful effects of chemical fertilizers, and it has been reflected to other farmers and they are using vermi compost in their crop fields for producing safe and healthy food. The united women enhance the production capacity of their plant considering the demand of the local farmers. Now, they are economically solvent, earning desired profit and socially dignified and contribute their collective efforts for safe food production and climate change.



At the bottom, the vulnerable people living at Para level within the Villages known as Samities (small groups). Samities are federated within the Villages namely Peoples Organizations (POs).

Onward step by step vertically formed representing bodies at Union, Thana (sub-district/Upa-zillas) District levels committees are organized upto constituency level in the name of PARALLELLOGRAM established an informal tripartite relationship (Go+NGO+POs) by the side of all the local government tiers with a view to tapping public services and for policy advocacy. Also all the women Members of the Village based Peoples Organizations (POs) are instituted at the Constituency (national parliament) level separately in the name of Women federation of the Peoples Organizations (WFPOs) by the side of the PARALLELLOGRAM with a view to demand the Women Rights equality justice and for Agrarian change perspectives.

A Village based Peoples Organisation is constituted with minimum of 4 Samities, two of each gender balanced. All members of the Samities are automatically become members of the General Body in principle with the policies ensured 50% men and women.

Youth Empowerment

Community Development Association (CDA) initiated and facilitated the youth for reorganizing by themselves for the boarder perspectives and re-strengthened their capacity to institute an united platform of the youth by their own initiatives, where the youth are in a process of building leadership towards ensuring People Centered Land Governance and with a view to protest against the injustice and securing the tenurial rights to establish the fundamental human rights which includes basically the idea of land rights as the human rights.

Considering the Global, Regional & National unemployment context of youth, CDA plan to strategic initiative of securing the future: Land Rights for Rural Youth” through partnership with RMI-The Indonesian Institute for Forest and Environment towards Mobilize, Connect & Influence the key actors for achiving different Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Connect:

Connecting Rural Youth to strengthen solidarity collaboration among them for advocacy to access to land and other natural resources to engage with other stakeholders (Government, NGOs, Private sectors and mainstream media).

Mobilize:

Mobilizing capacity of rural youth to understand the urgency of involving youth in land governance and providing them with access to Land align with SDGs: (3) Good health and well Being, (4) Quality Education,(5) Gender Equality, (8) Decent Work and Economic Growth, (10) Reduced Inequalities and (15) Life on Land.



Influence:

Influence to respective stakeholders for positive changes in policy, legislation and regional or sub-regional framework through dialogue, consultation, hearing and preparation of policy brief & position paper of Bangladesh Rural Youth.

Empowerment of Differently Able People

CDA facilitates to organize district level Federation of the People with Disabilities- Youth, men and Women including IPs and different Ethnic people from the village level to District level since 2013. During the year 2021-2022 enlisted 1960 disable members in two Districts under CDA's working area and federated as per the by-laws to promote their self-help organizations. Such an initiative of the institutionalization process of the disable people who are differently able has been organizing by a disable women staff in CDA with a view to empower the excluded disable persons and for integration to tap the resources from the public and private sectors ensuring their rights and access to all other public services.



Skills and Capacity Development for Members of Peoples Organizations and CDA-Staff

CDA has been working with the poor, landless women, men, youth, disabled along with IP and Ethnic minorities to develop skills of human resources with the aims of Innovativeness, productivity as well as transformation of knowledge, attitude and behaviour and promote their Economic, Social, Cultural, Civil and Political sensitization by building their conceptual clarity towards empowerment for Rights assertion.



CDA has an effective training cell and has a group of knowledgeable, skilled, and competent trainers/facilitators who have been facilitating training for the whole organizational staff on a calendar basis. On the other hand, CDA gathered longest term practical (actionable) experience in the fields of Institution Building, Leadership, Management, Sustainable Land Use, Health and Environment, Youth and Land, Land Rights, and Human Rights and People-Centered Program Approaches. Concerning Right Based Approaches (RBA), CDA training cell developed training curriculum based on rights concerns and provides technical support to right holders for empowerment and capacity/ability to access resources, while also promoting their leadership for playing their roles in increasing the responsibilities and accountability of duty bearers of responsibilities. In these circumstances, the CDA training cell provides training followed by different effective participatory methodologies for raising the voice of the poorer section of the right holders to ensure their rights according to need.





JONO-SREEJON INSTITUTE (JSI) **(CDA's Central Training Centre for Human Development)**



The CDA Central Training Centre namely **The Jono-Sreejon Institute**, is situated in the valley of the Himalayas, near by the river Dhapa. The distance of the training center is 25 km from Dinajpur town. The campus is designed around a beautiful natural environment Located in the village surrounded by the Indigenous people with its heritage of northwest part of Bangladesh.

The Training Centre provides a facility for grassroots women and men from the villages, staff and participants from various national and international non-governmental organizations to take part in and facilitate trainings, conferences and special events. The Training Centre provides institutional support to different organizations and associations, and contributes to the sustainability of CDA. The CDA Central Training Centre is a place where people come to share and exchange ideas and to learn. The environment is gender-friendly and in this place, people with Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Buddhist, Aborigines or other beliefs can all feel welcome, and live in communal harmony. The total campus is more than 4 acres of land and it provides residential facilities for 120 women and men. Guests can enjoy food, Lodging, cultural activities, training or meetings within a congenial and secure atmosphere.



Local Culture:

In addition to natural beauty, the region is rich in culture and historical heritage, including peasant struggles. There are many tribal (Aboriginal/Adibashi) people in the area. The center is minutes away from the historical Kantanagar (Kantajew's) Temple, Naya-bad Mosque and close to a small Museum. It is not far from Dinajpur Raj Bari Compound, and it is close to significant burial sites of freedom fighters that fought for the independence of Bangladesh, and of religious martyrs long before.

Residential Facilities:

- ❖ 16 Double rooms (2 beds) with attached bath.
- ❖ 19 Triple rooms (3 beds) where 10 with attached bath
- ❖ 5 semi-VIP rooms with attached bath large groups may use an additional staff dormitory. There are both local and western-style commodes. Special accessible facilities for people who use wheel chairs are available. People with disabilities are welcome at the Training Centre in a easiest way.

Meeting and Training Facilities

For large meetings and seminars:

- 3 Large hall rooms with seats for 300, 150 and 50 people

For Training:

- 3 training rooms (2 big, 1 medium size) for groups of 40-60.

For small groups and open discussion:

- 3 shaded open-air round rooms outside to enjoy people the natural environment. Each seats 20 people.

ICT Support:

- All time Wi-Fi connection therein.
- Computer facilities in JSI-ICT center for training and daily outside use.

Dining and Refreshments:

The Training Centre provides Nutritious Food and refreshments for Guests, which includes seasonal fruits and vegetables cultivated in local villagers. The large dining hall offers a self-service feeding system. 300 people can dine comfortably at the same time. The Centre has a regular menu. Guests may contract for different food menus or special diets. Safe drinking water is available all times.



JONO-SREEJON INSTITUTE(JSI) **(A Centre for ICT & Technical Training Institute of CDA)**



The Jono-Sreejon Institute (JSI): A Centre for Information Communication Technology and Technical Training Institute of CDA has been registered by the Bangladesh Technical Education Board (BTEB) in the fiscal year 2007-2008. The Courses that have been approved & included with **Computer Programing & Graphics Design, Multimedia Trade, and Computer Office Application Trade.** *The Jono-Sreejon Institute – ICT Centre* is located in the village of Mokundapur, Rampur, Kaharol, Dinajpur. Nearest to the famous temple "Kantajew" (locally called Kantajew Mandir) July 2021-June 2022 Total 39 nos. learners registered and 24 nos. of learners received certificates from BTEB and Technical trades are performed by the Skilled and qualified Instructors are all time within the campus.

CDA's Strategic Alliances

(A) National Level:

- ✓ The Federation of NGOs in Bangladesh (FNB)
- ✓ Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD)
- ✓ CAMPEE for Quality Education
- ✓ Credit and Development Forum (CDF)
- ✓ PHM Bangladesh for Right to Health
- ✓ People, Land and Agrarian Reform in Northern Territory (PLANET)

(B) Regional Level:

- ✓ Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC), The Philippine
- ✓ Asian Farmers Association (AFA), the Philippine.
- ✓ Asian Health Institute (AHI), Japan.
- ✓ South Asian Pastoralist Alliance (SAPA), India.

(C) International Level:

- ✓ International Land Coalition (ILC), Rome, Italy
- ✓ FIAN, Germany
- ✓ World Rural Forum (WRF), France
- ✓ World Forum for Access to Land, France

(D) Networking & Alliance Building:

In Order to ensure policy mobilization 16 nos. of local NGOs coordinated by CDA from the Northern Districts in two divisions Rajshahi & Rangpur having an alliance titled " People, Land and Agrarian Reform in Northern Ecological Territory (PLANET) facilitates as a vehicle to achieve the Goal of Peoples Centered Land Governance. In the Network and alliance building process the members of (PLANET) meet together quarterly for discussion, analyze the grassroots socio-political trend & situation. Each quarter of the (PLANET) meeting submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister of the country for addressing the demand of Landless poor, marginal peasants, IPs, Ethnic minorities & agricultural labor wage rights along with ESC&C&PHR.





Comments from the Treasurer

Since inception, CDA has been keeping its name and fame in home and abroad very transparently along with its organizational image with its accountability especially in terms of ensuring financial management system at all levels of the organization from central office to field level that are being operated with a decentralized manner followed by a financial management policy-manual and other recognized compliances as well.



We are proud to report that, CDA's finance department performed by a group of efficient and qualified Human Resources are committed to accomplish the program goals upon the planned budget year wise during all phases in systematic manners.

I Myself on behalf of the Executive Committee of CDA would like to thank the Bread for world (Bftw)- Germany for their continuous financial support to implement the People Centred Land Governance Program "Sustainable Organization for Land Rights and Agrarian Reform (SOLAR)" especially for the year 2020-2021 in the north western part of the country, also thanks to some others national and Global support Agencies-IIW-FIMI, ILC, ANGOC, RMI, ALRD and UNDP-NHRC-Bangladesh whose contributions and the inputs are really encouraged CDA to make the cross cutting relevant issues to move forward with people who are in the process of inclusion facilitated CDA.

Finally, I would like to express my deep felicitation to the Executive Committee and General Board members of CDA for moral support and companion to shoulder my responsibilities extending values, time & suggestions and the External Auditing Firms for certification towards fair financial operation with accountability and also best wishes to the Executive Director along with the staff-members for their full time cooperation.

With Best regards

Selina Begum
Treasurer.CDA



Financial Part



শফিক বসাক এন্ড কোং
SHAFIQ BASAK & CO.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Partners:

Md. Shafiqul Islam, FCA
Sampad Kumar Basak, FCA
Sarwar Mahmood, FCA
Sheikh Zahidul Islam, MBA, FCA

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Web : www.shafiqbasak.com

**Independent Auditor's Report
Community Development Association (CDA)**

Report on the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of "Community Development Association (CDA)" Consolidated which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30th June 2022, the statements of income & expenditure and statement of receipt & payments for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects of the consolidated statement of financial position of Community Development Association (CDA) as at 30th June 2022, and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) and other applicable laws and regulations.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the organization in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in jurisdictions, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and with the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements and Internal Control

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with IFRSs and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

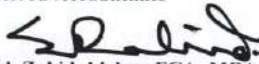
In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process

We also report that:

- We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit and made due verification thereof;
- In our opinion, proper books of accounts as required by law have been kept by organization so far as it appeared from our examination of these books;
- The Consolidated statements of financial position and consolidated statements of income & expenditure dealt with by the report are in agreement with the books of accounts and returns;
- The expenditure incurred was for the purposes of the company.

Signed for and on behalf of
Shafiq Basak & Co.
Chartered Accountants


Sheikh Zahidul Islam FCA, MBA
Partner

Dated: October 30., 2022
Dhaka, Bangladesh

INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF
ABACUS
WORLDWIDE

DHAKA OFFICE - (2) : House - 42 (1st Floor), Road - 01, Block - A, Niketan, Gulshan - 01, Dhaka.
Phone : 88-02-99859602-3, 01819-285196, E-mail.mahmoods.bd@gmail.com

In Practice Since 1993



**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (CDA)
CONSOLIDATED
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30TH JUNE, 2022**

PROPERTY AND ASSETS	Notes	Amount in Tk	
		30.06.2022	30.06.2021
Property, Plant & Equipment	6.00	8,853,655	8,990,777
FDR	7.00	8,095,442	7,898,100
Outstanding Loan Account	8.00	6,906,089	6,906,089
Loan to project	9.00	16,028,584	16,526,286
Sundry advance payment	10.00	1,605,338	1,605,338
Loan to Staff	11.00	354,618	698,058
Loan to Nursery	12.00	92,960	31,960
Advance to project	13.00	18,749	11,723
Receivable from project	14.00	547,905	547,905
Advance salary	15.00	54,296	54,296
Sundry debtors	16.00	2,112,978	2,112,978
Advance payment	17.00	509,355	157,195
Share Purchase	18.00	350,000	350,000
Security Deposit	19.00	13,000	13,000
Suspense Accounts	20.00	77,663	77,663
Library Book	21.00	118,776	118,776
Cash and bank balance	22.00	12,034,402	15,817,841
TOTAL		57,773,810	61,917,985
FUND AND LIABILITIES			
Accumulated fund	23.00	17,821,238	26,643,403
Member fund	24.00	7,343,063	5,121,405
Gratuity Fund	25.00	2,374,922	2,083,810
Loan from Training Center	26.00	1,600,267	1,600,267
Loan from project	27.00	9,402,775	9,227,275
Other Fund	28.00	3,285,476	1,295,756
Staff Welfare Fund	29.00	766,691	766,691
Loan from Party	30.00	2,557,942	2,557,942
Loan from CDA-G	31.00	4,604,976	4,604,976
Rice Reserved in Godown	32.00	28,450	28,450
Forefiture	33.00	4,012,310	4,012,310
Salary Payable/Provision for Expenses	34.00	3,952,900	3,952,900
ICT Website	35.00	8,000	8,000
Security Money	36.00	14,800	14,800
TOTAL		57,773,810	61,917,985



Finance Manager

Manager (F & A)
CDA-Dinajpur.

The annexed notes form an integral part of these statements.

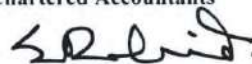


Executive Director

Signed as per our separate report on same date.

Executive Director
CDA-Dinajpur.

Signed for & on behalf of
Shafiq Basak & Co.
Chartered Accountants



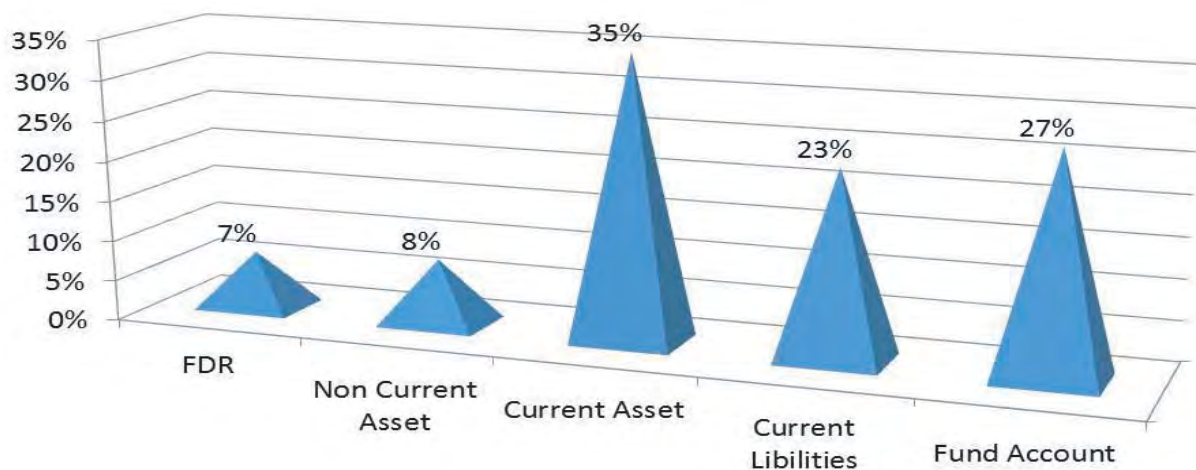
Sheikh Zahidul Islam, FCA, MBA
Partner

Dated: October 30, 2022

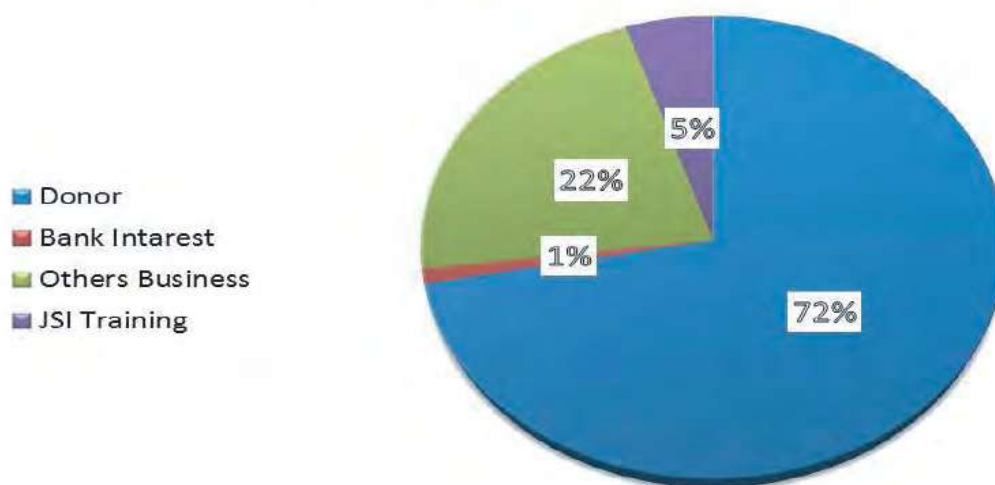




**Community Development Association (CDA)
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
For The Year Ended June-30, 2022**



**Community Development Association (CDA)
Consolidated Statement of Source of Fund
For The Year Ended June-30, 2022**



CDA's Governance

General Board Members

 <p>Professor Dr. Halida Hanum Akhter (PhD) Researcher: Harvard University. Health Scientist & Development/ Health Activist</p>	 <p>Professor Dr. Rahman Nasir Uddin (PhD) Anthropologist-Chittagong University. Development/ HR Activist</p>	 <p>Professor Dr. Eshani Chakraborty (PhD) Department of History, Dhaka University Women Activist</p>	 <p>Professor Dr. Saiful Huda (PhD) Head of Department Ag. Extension, HSTU. Agriculture Scientist, Development/ HR Activist</p>	 <p>Dr. Chowdhury Mosaddequl Isdani General Secretary of Eye-Hospital, Dinajpur. Development/ Health Activist</p>
 <p>Dr. I.F.M. Shahidul Islam Khan Eye Specialist, Freedom Fighter, Cultural/ Health Activist</p>	 <p>Advocate Md. Azizul Islam Lawyer & Development/ HR Activist</p>	 <p>Rashida Khatun Founding Member, Women Activist, Development Practitioner</p>	 <p>Shah I Mobin Jinnah Founding Executive Director/CEO/ Member- Secretary, Development/HR Activist</p>	 <p>Md. Monowarul Islam Farmer & Development/ HR Activist</p>
 <p>Md. Mostaque Hossain Chowdhury Banker, Development/ HR Activist</p>	 <p>Shefat-E-Jahan Banker, Development/ Cultural Activist</p>	 <p>Md. Moshir-Ur-Rahman Ex. Chief Engineer (Water Board) Development & Education Activist</p>	 <p>Syeeda Chowdhury Development/ Women Activist</p>	 <p>Advocate. Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury Income Tax Lawyer, Development/HR Activist</p>
 <p>Shah Md. Abdul Kayyum Freedom Fighter, Development/ Social Activist</p>	 <p>Md. Samsul Karim Ex-Lecturer-Sociology, Development/ HR Activist</p>	 <p>Selina Begum Lecturer-Philosophy, Women Activist</p>	 <p>Md. Abed Ali Farmer & Development/ HR Activist</p>	 <p>Md. Khorshad Alam Farmer & Development/ HR Activist</p>
 <p>Professor Dr. Mohammad Saiful Alam Community Medicine Specialist, Health Activist</p>		 <p>Meherun Nessa Chabi Development / Women Activist</p>		



Executive Committee



ADVOCATE MD. AZIZUL ISLAM
Chairperson



MD. MONOWARUL ISLAM
Vice-Chairperson



SHAH I MOBIN JINNAH
*Founder, Member Secretary/ Executive
Director/ Chief Executive Officer (CEO)*



SELINA BEGUM
Treasurer



RASHIDA KHATUN
Founding Member



PROFESSOR DR. SAIFUL HUDA (PhD)
Member

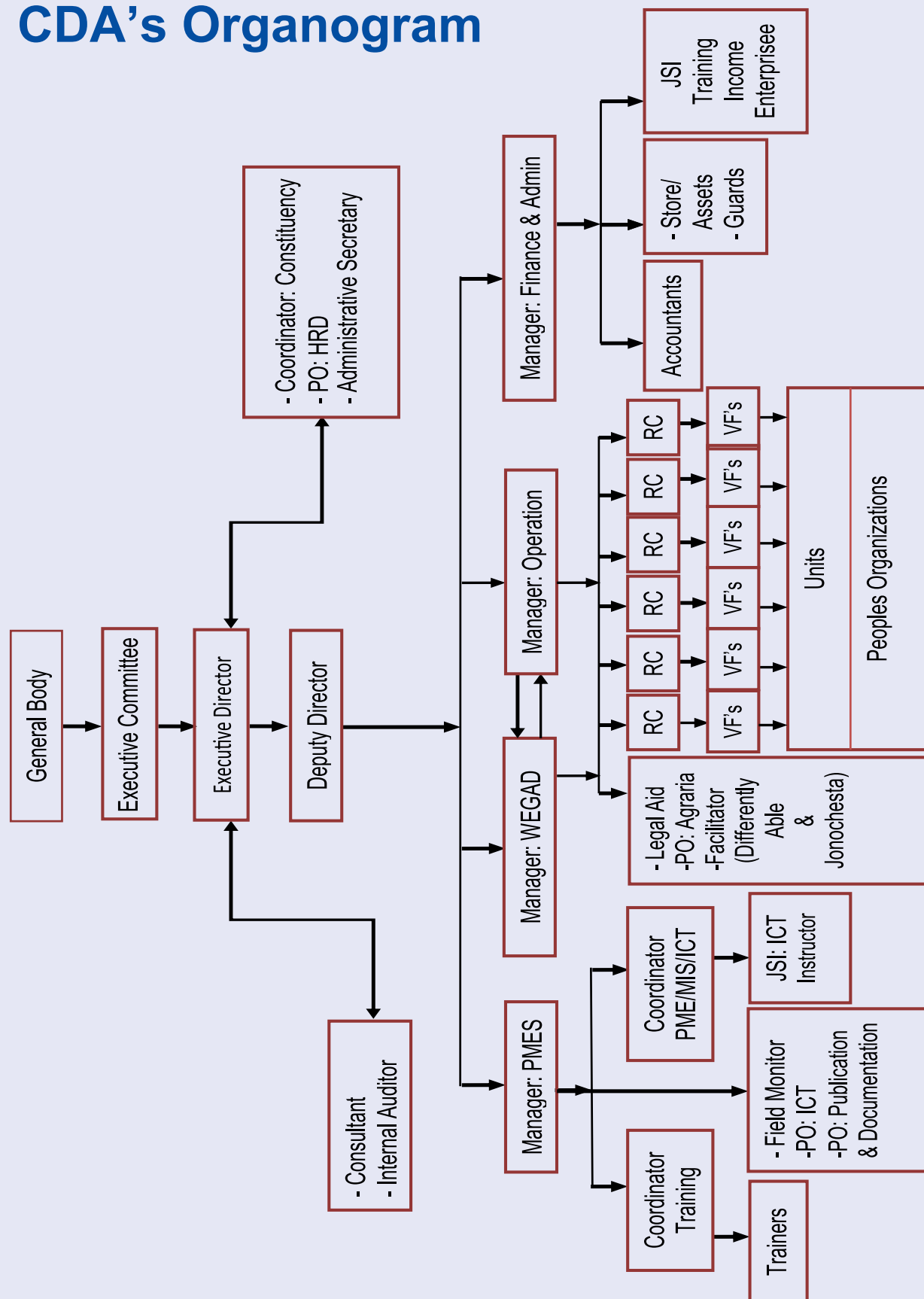


MD. MOSTAQUE HOSSAIN CHOWDHURY
Member



SHEFAT- E- JAHAN (SHEU)
Member

CDA's Organogram





THANKS

ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022



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📘 www.facebook.com/cdadinaajpur



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (CDA)