

**Women of the Coast**  
A Gender Status Paper on the Coastal Zone

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(PDO-ICZMP)**

**Women of the Coast  
Gender Status Paper**

**Working Paper  
WP027**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper provides with an understanding of the position and status of women of the coast *vis a vis* the men. It also gives an idea of where women of the coast stand compared to their national status. The ICZMP aims to promote gender equality and women's advancement in the coastal belt.

### General Overview

Although the Gender Development Indicators in Bangladesh in recent years have shown encouraging upward trends in development, the majority of women in the coastal zone, as elsewhere, are still outside the development fold. Bangladesh ranks 112<sup>th</sup> out of a total of 175 countries worldwide according to the UN Gender Development Index (UNDP, 2003).

Women's development in Bangladesh is an evolution from 'charity' to 'rights' and it has grown to become an intrinsic part of the national development policy, donor policies and all national strategy documents and frameworks.

### Women in coastal zone: an overview

While both poor men and women in the coast have a common legacy of poverty and insecurity, the poor woman is 'poorer than the poorest man'. And with the ever-increasing number of this hard core poor, the 'face of poverty' begins to look more and more 'feminine'. It is in this context of relative impoverishment of women that an assessment of their status and position in the coast has been made.

	Indicators	Unit	CZ	BD	Ref Yr.	Source
Demographic	Female population	million	17.13	59.95	2001	BBS, 2003b
	Male/female ratio	ratio	104.7	106.6	2001	BBS, 2003b
	HH size	persons/hh	5.1	4.9	2001	BBS, 2003b
	FHH	% of total	2.7	3.48	1996	BBS, 1999
Economic	Female active labor force	% of total	37	37	2002	BBS, 1999
	Female self employment	% of total (agri)	28	29	1996	BBS, 1999
	Female unpaid farm helper	% of total (agri)	52	52	1996	BBS, 1999
	Female labor in other holding	% of total (agri)	11	13	1996	BBS, 1999
Education	Literacy rate 7+ yrs	% of female	47	41	2001	BBS, 2003b
	Literacy rate 15+ yrs	% of female	49	41	2001	BBS, 2003b
	Girls in primary school	% of total	50.02	49	2001	DPE, 2003
	Enrolment rate in pri. sch.	% of girl	98	98	2001	DPE, 2003
Health	Access to safe water					
	TW	% of hh	68.41	79.77	2001	BBS, 2003b
	DTW	% of hh	15.57	8.42	2001	BBS, 2003b
	Tap	% of hh	4.00	5.96	2001	BBS, 2003b
	Access to sanitation	% of hh	46	37	2001	BBS, 2003b
	IMR	per 000	51-68	56	2000	BBS & UNICEF, 2001
	TFR		3.1	3	2000	BBS & UNICEF, 2001
	Severe malnutrition (12-59m)	% of girl	8	6	2000	BBS & UNICEF, 2001

Some of the key positive and negative aspects of women's position in the coastal zone can be described as:

#### Positive Aspects -

- ◇ Sex ratio is lower than national average.
- ◇ Literacy rate is high
- ◇ Number of divorced women is lower than national level.
- ◇ U5MR is at the same level as national average.
- ◇ Rural active labor force for women is higher in the CZ.

- ◇ Gross enrollment for girls is higher than national average.
- ◇ More women from CZ visible in national politics.

Negative Aspects -

- ◇ Fertility rate is higher in CZ than national.
- ◇ More women remain unmarried in CZ.
- ◇ IMR in CZ higher than national average specially the girl child.
- ◇ Women work largely in domestic and non-monitized sector .
- ◇ Women are less than half than men in active labor force in CZ.
- ◇ Wage rate of women in CZ is lower than national average whether rural, urban or overall. Women receive half of the minimum wage that men get.
- ◇ Severe malnutrition is slightly higher than national. In CZ it is twice as high among women than men.
- ◇ Health infrastructure is more inadequate in CZ.
- ◇ Reproductive health condition for women in CZ is worse than in Bangladesh.
- ◇ Overall gross enrollment is lower in CZ (though for girls, it is same as national average).

***Women's participation in public life***

Although women's participation in national politics is negligible and it has hardly evolved over the years, it is nonetheless highest in the coastal area (particularly in Chittagong and Khulna). Women's participation in local government shows a clear upward trend and is far more dynamic than in the Parliament.

***Gender Disparity in CZ***

On the basis of three major variables, namely total population, literacy rate and proportion of economically active population, CPD-UNFPA has developed a Gender Related Development Index for 64 Districts of Bangladesh and has ranked the districts according to gender disparity. According CPD-UNFPA (2002), as many as 11 out of the 19 CZ districts fall under 'low gender disparity' category (Barisal, Bhola, Patuakhali, Jhalokathi, Pirojpur, Barguna, Jessore, Magura, Narail, Bagerhat, Chittagong, and Noakhali), only 6 fall under 'medium disparity' (Khulna, Cox's Bazar, Chandpur, Gopalganj, Feni and Lakshipur) and 2 fall under high disparity (Satkhira and Shariatpur).

***Linking Coastal Priorities to National Strategy (2003)& Building Alliance***

Finally, the goals and strategic elements of the national strategy (ERD, 2003), DIFD's 'Women and Girls First' (2003) have to be taken advantage of in developing a gender strategy within the framework of a Coastal Development Strategy. The major priority areas of the IPRSP fall into a pattern that comfortably fits the needs of the coastal zone.

Simultaneously, many government and non-government initiatives are trying to address the problem of gender and working for the advancement of women in Bangladesh. A preliminary inventory, 'who is doing what in gender' in the CZ, as appended here, is useful to build alliances and networks to facilitate a strong coastal zone development.

## STUDY TEAM

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## ACCRONYMS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
APD	Academy for Planning and Development
APON	Adolescent Peer Organized Network
ASA	Association for Social Advancement
ASFR	Age Specific Fertility Rate
BBS	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
BCSAA	Bangladesh Civil Service Administration Academy
BD	Bangladesh
BKB	Bangladesh Krishi Bank
BNPS	Bangladesh Nari Progoti Sangha
BPATC	Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre
BRAC	Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee
BRDB	Bangladesh Rural Development Board
BSS	Bittohin Samobay Samity
CARE	Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere
CBO	Community Based Organization
CDF	Community Development Forum
CDSP	Char Development and Settlement Project
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women
CEGIS	Centre for Environmental and Geographic Information Services
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CLA	Coastal Livelihood Analysis
CPD	Centre for Policy Dialogue
CPR	Common Property Resource
CZ	Coastal Zone
DfID	Department for International Development
DWA	Directorate of Women's Affairs
ECFC	Empowerment of Coastal Fishing Community
EE	Executive Engineer
ERD	Economic Relations Division
FHH	Female Headed Household
FR-B	Feeder Road –type B
GB	Grameen Bank
GoB	Government of Bangladesh
GQAL	Gender Quality Action Learning Program
GRCC	Gender Relations Coordination Cell
HH	Household
HRD	Human Resource Development
ICZMP	Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan
IGA	Income Generating Activities
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
IMWDP	Integrated Multi Sectoral Women's Development
IPRSP	Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
IRWDP	Integrated Rural Women Development Program
JB	Janata Bank
JBIC	Japan Bank for International Cooperation
KAP	Knowledge, Attitude and Practice
KJDRP	Khulna-Jessore Drainage Rehabilitation Project
km	Kilometer
LCS	Labor Contract Society
LGD	Local Government Division
LGED	Local government Engineering Department

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LPUPAP	Local Partnership for Urban Poverty Alleviation Project
MBSS	Mohila Bittohin Shamobay Samity
MMR	Maternal Mortality Rate
MoE	Ministry of Establishment
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoP	Ministry of Planning
MoWCA	Ministry of Women's and Children's Affairs
MSS	Mohila Shamobay Samity
MUAC	Median Under-Arm Circumference
NAP	National Action Plan
NCWD	National Council on Women's Development
NGO	Non Government Organization
NIPORT	National Institute of Population Research and Training
Non-CZ	Non- Coastal Zone
O & M	Operation and Maintenance
PDO-ICZMP	Program Development Office-Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan
PDSCL	Perceptions of Direct Stakeholders on Coastal Livelihoods
PFA	Platform for Action
PIC	Project Implementation Committee
PKSF	Palli Karma Shahayak Foundation
PLAGE	Policy Leadership and Advocacy for Gender Equality
PLAU	Policy Leadership and Advocacy Unit
PP	Project Proforma
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
RDP	Rural Development Project
RED	Research and Evaluation Division
RKUB	Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank
RLF	Revolving Loan Fund
RLP	Rural Livelihood Project
RMP	Rural Maintenance Program
SB	Sonali Bank
STD	Sexually Transmitted Diseases
TBA	Traditional Birth Attendant
TE	Thana Engineer
TFR	Total Fertility Rate
TK	Taka
TW	Tubewell
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Family Planning Activities
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UP	Union Parishad
USA	United States of America
VGD	Vulnerable Group Development
VGf	Vulnerable Group Feeding
VO	Village Organization
WARPO	Water Resource Planning Organization
WID	Women in Development
WP	Working Paper

**GLOSSARY**

Bittohin	Asset less
Borkha	Veil
Boyoshko Bhata	Allowance for the elderly
Dadon	Loan
Dakter	Doctor
Kantha	Hand made blanket/quilt
Kishori Shangho	Adolescent girl's group
Mastaan	Muscleman
Mohila	Women
Muri	Puffed rice
Rakto Bomi	Vomiting blood
Shamobay Samity	Cooperatives
Taka	Bangladeshi currency
Union Parishad	Local government unit at the union level
Upazila	Geo-administrative unit under a district comparing several unions

## 1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

### 1.1 Context

Bangladesh ranks 112<sup>th</sup> out of a total of 175 countries worldwide according to the UN Gender Development Index (UNDP, 2003). Although many of the basic development indicators show that women lag behind men in terms of literacy, health and income, improvements are noticed, in recent years, in primary school enrolment and female mortality rates.

It is generally acknowledged that deep gender discriminations exist in Bangladesh. Women face deprivation in many areas, including education, health, nutrition, employment, credit, security as well as control over assets. In fact, the feminization of poverty has become more and more evident. However, improvements in gender related development has placed *Bangladesh, in international comparisons, with the country ranking higher in Gender Development Index than in Human Development Index*. The most significant contribution in reducing the existing gender gap is the difference in educational attainment (CPD-UNFPA, 2002).

Bangladesh, as a traditional society within a patriarchal, patrilineal and patri-local social system upholds a rigid gender division of labor that perceives men and women's roles differently and controls women's mobility, duties and responsibilities along with their sexuality. However, this gender construct is under threat and is changing noticeably due to persistent poverty and the gradual erosion of the familial umbrella support. The society and the gender equation in Bangladesh are in a state of transition and flux.

#### *1.1.1 Gender in Bangladesh: an evolution from 'charity' to 'rights'*

Over the decades development has largely been slow and piecemeal leaving much to be desired. With the evolution of development strategies from 'charity, welfare to empowerment and rights' the development net grew to be 'inclusive' (at least in principle). Planners and policy makers learnt to recognize the need for wider participation and to accommodate, within their policies, the excluded and the vulnerable categories of the population of which women were the largest (49% of the total population in Bangladesh). This is a pragmatic policy shift that acknowledges that traditional development without women's empowerment and participation leaves nearly 50% of the country's human resource unutilized, alienated and undeveloped. Thus, on the one hand, (women's) development is the 'right to equal opportunities' and on the other, it is a national need to maximize resources to empower a nation.

#### *1.1.2 Women: an intrinsic part of national development strategy*

The growing emphasis on women, both in policies and programs, is not a 'favor' but a 'right'- and a necessity of effective development strategy. This is evident from the political and socio-economic significance of integrating women's concerns and needs into development plans and policies. The Constitution of Bangladesh upholds the equality of men and women. Government has made some noteworthy efforts toward integrating the women's agenda into the broader policy and plan framework. These include the National Strategy for Economic Growth, Poverty Reduction and social Development (ERD, 2003), Fifth Five year Plan (MoP, 1998) that adopts the policy of mainstreaming women in development; declaration of the National Policy for Advancement of Women (MoWCA, 1998); and adoption of the National Action Plan (NAP) for Advancement of Women- implementing the Beijing Platform for Action (PFA).

### 1.1.3 Donor policies and National Strategy Document

The many failures of the past have pushed for a shift in donor approach that demands a more 'bottom up' planning process that will make the development agenda more responsible and relevant to the people. DFID's own Poverty Review in 1998 suggested that their 'supported programs did not, in general, reach the extreme poor' and those who need the support most. DFID as a part of its poverty reduction strategy has initiated the country assistance plan (2003-2006) setting a new priority high of 'Women and Girls First' (DfID, 2003).

Promoting gender equality is one of the four major themes of development cooperation, set by the Netherlands aid program to Bangladesh. This provides increased gender equality support to mainstreaming gender in the sector approach related to the priority sectors i.e., education, health and water resources management. More over, women-specific initiatives are supported in the following strategic priority areas by both the governments of the Netherlands and Bangladesh:

- ◇ Participation of women in politics and governance;
- ◇ Combating violence against women;
- ◇ Integration of policy on gender and poverty into macro-economic analysis, policy and planning.

The recent National Strategy for Economic Growth, Poverty Reduction and social Development (ERD, 2003), promoted by the international donor community and supported by the Government, is in the process of being formulated through a 'participatory consultative process'. The National Strategy emphasizes the importance of women's development and the reduction of gender gaps as a development objective in its own right (ERD, 2003). The gender strategy is based on the 'rights, resources and agencies' framework, which means that gender as a development objective focuses upon equality under law, equality of economic and social opportunity, and equality of voices and agency.

Gender in the ICZMP must be viewed within this overall framework. It is in this context that a gender sensitive Coastal Zone Policy and Coastal Development Strategy are being formulated. For this, the gender status and the position of coastal women vis a vis men and in the context of their national counterparts need discussion and understanding. This paper is a result of that need.

### 1.1.4 Introduction to Gender in ICZMP

One of the eight objectives of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan (ICZMP) is to 'promote gender equality and women's advancement in the coastal belt' (PDO-ICZMP, 2003d). This forms an essential part of the 'building block' in the formulation of the Coastal Development Strategy, the central output of the ICZMP. The advancement of women is a strategic national policy to benefit the vast majority of the people in society through gender equity and social justice.

Indeed, the overall gender policy and strategy for coastal development would necessarily have to be in line with the GoB policies and strategies already mentioned. The framework and objectives for gender equity in the ICZMP is inspired and linked to the NAP, IPRSP and the National Millennium Goals that together form the basis for an engendered national policy. Naturally, the ICZMP, through this gender status paper, attempts to analyze the gender status of the coastal zone in order to formulate a realistic gender action plan/strategy that will make 'specific' and 'measurable' contributions towards achieving the national and the IPRSP gender goals for 2015. Links between coastal development objectives to IPRSP goals and strategy elements are elaborated in Appendices 1 and 2.



## 1.2 Scope

The overall goal of the integrated coastal development program is “to create conditions, in which the reduction of poverty, development of sustainable livelihoods and the integration of the coastal zone into national processes can take place.”

The gender implications of such a definition is that, women, along with men, will have equal opportunities to benefit from this process and the ICZMP strategy will contribute to operationalize this (gender) definition.

To embark onto this expedition towards gender equality, within this broader goal, a clear understanding of women’s status and position with respect to discrepancies and inequalities between men and women, their priorities and right to decision making, opportunities and access to resources and services in the coastal population are essential.

This paper gives an overview of the status of women in the coast in relation to the linkage with national goals and ICZMP perspective. The main emphasis of the paper is to assess the condition of coastal women, firstly compared to coastal men and secondly compared to the status of women (and gender) in the rest of the country. The major human development indicators generally used to assess gender status have been applied in this report to assess coastal gender status. These indicators thus mainly, relate to demographic, socio- cultural, economic, and educational and health parameters.

## 1.3 Methodology

This status paper mainly depends on secondary materials and extensive review of the policy documents, published reports and analysis of existing data both from PDO-ICZMP and from outside sources. The secondary materials reviewed in this regard are as follows

- ◇ PDO-ICZMP documents;
- ◇ Policy documents;
- ◇ National statistical data;
- ◇ Other relevant literature.

In order to assess both the depth and the spread of ‘gender inequality’, analysis of case studies qualifying the experience of individual women and families are brought together with the available statistical data on the overall (gender) status of the people living in the coastal zone. This paper therefore compiles both the quantitative<sup>1</sup> and qualitative indicators<sup>2</sup> in assessing gender status in the coastal zone.

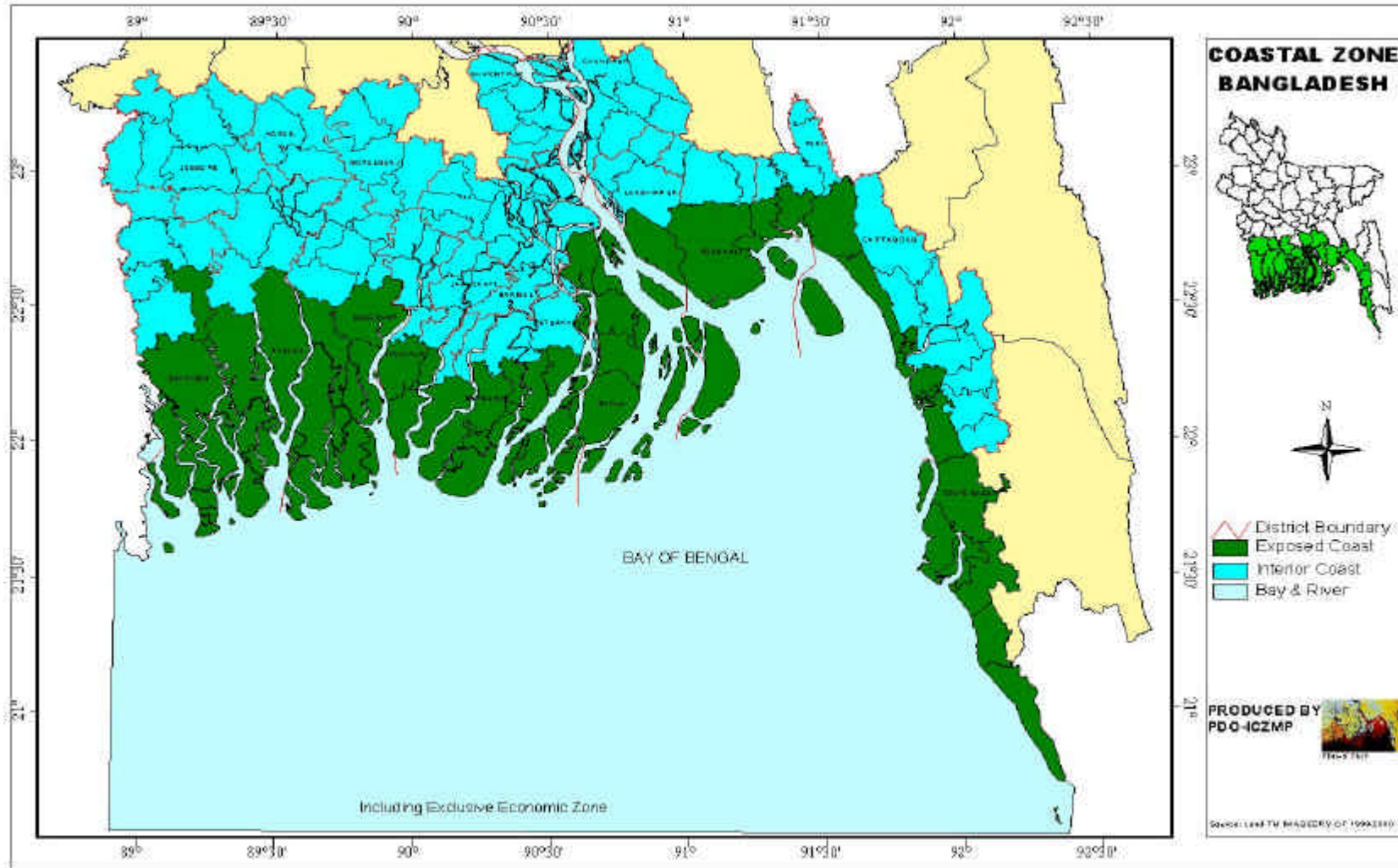
This position paper draws heavily on a survey on the "Perceptions of Direct Stakeholders on Coastal Livelihoods" (PDSCL), based on interviews of 101 women and 94 men from 102 coastal households (PDO-ICZMP, 2002). Samples were drawn from eight regions of the coastal zone representing different physical and ecological characteristics. 'Sustainable Livelihood Framework' was used as the basis. A detailed checklist was used to collect qualitative data and perception on household assets, activities, vulnerabilities and well-being. Amongst the surveyed households, detailed life story interviews were conducted in 11 households.

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<sup>1</sup> Quantitative indicators can be defined as measures of quantity e.g., sex ratio, education level etc.

<sup>2</sup> Qualitative indicators focus on attitude and perceptions that are typically constructed from less formal sources.

Figure 1: Map of the coastal zone



## 2 WOMEN IN COASTAL ZONE: AN OVERVIEW

### 2.1 Gender in the coast

Although the Gender Development Indicators (UNDP, 2003) in Bangladesh in recent years have shown encouraging upward trends in development, the majority of women in the coastal zone, as elsewhere, are still outside the development fold. What then is the gender equation in the coastal zone and where do women stand in the socio-economic, and political, cultural framework? This status paper attempts to assess this equation.

The traditional family constructs and the gender equation in the coast is increasingly under threat due to extreme poverty and the increased inability of families to provide protection to their women. Women leave their homes to enter the labor market- to find work outside. An increasingly rural active female labor force in the CZ demonstrates the increased mobility of rural women in economic activity despite strong traditional forces that keep women at home. This is a part of a process of women's growing impoverishment within a family that cannot provide for her and an urge to survive which forces her out of the boundaries of her home. Given the two opposing forces of tradition and poverty, the family and society is found struggling to accommodate the 'new' woman' in a space that needs to be created and is not readily available to her.

Gender gap is widespread in all spheres and at all levels, as national statistics on health, nutrition, education, employment and political participation so clearly demonstrate. Women in the coastal zone live within a complex socio-cultural and climatic reality. Visibly, both men and women in coastal areas experience economic and social exploitation. In addition to this, they are subjected to harsh and sometimes unpredictable natural conditions that keep them poor and insecure.

While both poor men and women in the coast have a common legacy of poverty and insecurity, the poor woman is poorer than the poorest man. And with the ever-increasing number of this hard core poor, the 'face of poverty' begins to look more and more 'feminine' – what social scientists today call the 'feminization' of poverty. It is in this context of relative impoverishment of women that an assessment of their status and position in the coastal zone need to be made.

### 2.2 Gender status analysis

Gender status generally refers to the position of women relative to men within a given situation and gender status in the coastal zone refers to the relative position of the coastal women compared to men measured in terms of these situational parameters. Gender status in Bangladesh remains a status of inequality and is defined as differentiated social standards (as against biological standards) for men and women.

In order to understand this phenomenon, therefore, one needs to look at some of the more common Human Development Indices in the coast such as demographic profile, the economic, social, and political and health indicators and assess its gender implications.

#### 2.2.1 Demography

The term "Demography" refers to the study of the size, growth, age and geographical distribution of human populations, and births, deaths, marriages, and migrations, this section, therefore, illustrate the gendered demographic status and position of women in coastal zone compared to the national status. Here, this has been reviewed in terms of sex ratio, household composition, fertility, marital status, mortality and migration etc.

### *Size of the Female Population*

The size of the female population is 17.1 million compared to the male population of 17.9 million in the CZ (BBS, 2003b). Chittagong, Barisal, Chandpur, Noakhali, Jessore and Khulna districts each has a female population of more than one million. See appendix 3 for details.

It has been estimated in the project that this female population in coastal zone is expected to grow to 20.7 million in 2015, 24.6 in 2030 and 29.0 in 2050 (PDO-ICZMP, in preparation). This projection has assumed that population will increase at a “declining rate” in the future years having reduced fertility rate and improved service delivery.

### *Sex ratio*

The overall sex ratio<sup>3</sup> in the CZ is 104.7, which is less than the sex ratio in non-CZ 107.3 and in Bangladesh 106.6 (BBS, 2003b). Chittagong and Khulna with more concentration of urban population have higher sex ratio (110.9 and 109.9 respectively); within the coastal zone, the female population is largest (sex ratio below 100) in the districts of Chandpur, Noakhali, Feni, Jhalakati. See appendix 3 for details.

Coastal zone poses a higher dependency ratio 0.90 than the national average 0.83 (BBS, 2003b). This is mainly because of the slightly higher concentration of children and old people.

In the CZ, the male female sex ratio in the 0-14 years is 110 and in the 15-49 years it is 96 while in the Non-CZ the ratios are 110 and 101 and in Bangladesh it is 110 and 100, respectively (BBS, 2003b) (Appendix 4). The gender disparity in sex ratio in favor of boys in the 0-14 years age group tends to even out by the 15-49 age group. In Bangladesh, as in the coast, the disproportion between boys and girls immediately after birth may be a reflection of the social neglect of the girl child, perceived severity of the antenatal and post natal complications, poor delivery care, early marriage and/or lower nutritional status and her higher mortality rate as a whole. Study findings from “Population and Sustainable Development” a collaborative programme of CPD-UNFPA upholds this explanations:

*“Micro studies show that sex is the main determinant of infant nutritional levels irrespective of economic development .It is found that although female children are biologically stronger than boys, morbidity and mortality rates of the girl child are higher than that of boys because of neglect and lack of proper treatment at birth (CPD-UNFPA, 2002:2).”*

This also explains the imbalance in the sex ratio in the early years of birth. The lower sex ratio between 0-14 years needs further assessment in terms of its cause.

### *Household composition*

Average size of households in CZ is 5.1, which is higher than the national average of 4.9 (BBS, 2003b). The average number of female in any household in the coastal zone is 2.50, which is also higher than the national average of 2.37 (BBS, 2003b) (Appendix 3).

At national level, a declining trend in male-headed households has emerged since 1991. The percentage of male dominated households has declined from 88.9 in 1991 to 87.3 in 1998 where as percentage of FHH has increased from 11.1 in 1991 to 12.7 in 1998. (BBS & MoWCA, 1999).

Empirical studies across the country suggest that the number of households below the poverty line<sup>4</sup> is significantly higher for female than for male-headed households. Over 95% of female-headed

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<sup>3</sup> Sex ratio is the ratio of male population per 100 females. Higher sex ratio is assumed as indicative of lower well being of women.

<sup>4</sup> Lower poverty line is <1805 Kcal.

households in Bangladesh are considered to fall lower poverty line (ADB, 2001). The data on incidence of poverty has shown that percentage distribution of female-headed households under the lower poverty line is 38.8%, which is higher than the male-headed households 35.3% (BBS & MoWCA, 1999).

Household composition seem to vary along the lines of livelihood categories and analyses of coastal livelihoods show four major occupational groups i.e., agricultural wage laborers, small farmers, fishers and urban poor. Here an effort has been made to analyze the distribution of female headed households in farming category. Table 1 shows the percentage distribution of the female-headed farm household's category in the coastal zone is 2.68%, which is lower than the national percentage (3.48%)(BBS, 1999). Non-coast has the highest rate of female-headed households (3.77%). However, variations exist between the exposed and interior coastal zone. Exposed coast has the highest concentration (2.76%) of female-headed farm households, which makes the community there relatively more poor and vulnerable than in other areas. Islands (2.47%) have the lowest density of female-headed households in farming category.

**Table 1: Regional distribution of female headed farm households**

Region	Total holdings	Percentage of farm holdings				Total farm holdings
		Non farm holdings	Farm holdings			
			Small (0.5-2.49)	Medium (2.5-7.49)	Large (7.5+)	
Islands	471359	1.35	1.02	0.09	0.02	2.47
Exposed	1606746	1.41	1.22	0.11	0.02	2.76
Interior	3200321	1.29	1.27	0.08	0.01	2.64
Non coast	13021120	2.16	1.45	0.14	0.02	3.77
<b>Total CZ</b>	<b>4807067</b>	<b>1.33</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>0.09</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>2.68</b>
<b>Bangladesh</b>	<b>17828187</b>	<b>1.94</b>	<b>1.40</b>	<b>0.12</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>3.48</b>

Source: Analysed using data from BBS, 1999

In addition to this, otherwise comparable picture of FHH to the national percentage, CZ has the characteristics of being home to a fairly large fishing population and therefore having women run their families periodically when men are out in fishing. (PDO-ICZMP, 2003c). Statistics on fisher households show that percentage distribution of fish catching households in coastal zone, therefore seasonal FHH, is almost double (14%) than that of other places in Bangladesh (8%). See Appendix 5 for details. Such households, depending on female income, are more vulnerable and poor than male-headed households. Women heads spend three fifths of their income on food while men spend only half. Higher food expenditure, lower intake, higher incidence of borrowing and indebtedness are all factors indicative of their relatively poorer condition and greater vulnerability than male heads (ADB, 2001).

However, further assessment of the socio-economic and livelihood situation of female headed households in CZ is needed to understand their survival strategies and also to identify avenues to address their felt needs.

#### *Fertility*

Estimates on total fertility rate (TFR) per thousand women show an unmistakable declining trend since 1975. TFR per thousand women for the country as a whole has dramatically fallen from 6.3 in 1975 to 3.0 in 1998 (BBS & MoWCA, 1999). This is explained by the family planning measures that have been made successfully more effective in the past decades. At national level the dominant fertility age group is 20-24 with 183 ASFR (age-specific fertility rate) per thousand women (BBS & MoWCA, 1999).

The fertility rate in CZ is higher at 3.1 than the national average of 3.0 (BBS & UNICEF, 2001). The impact of family planning is relatively less in the CZ particularly compared to Northern Bangladesh such as Rangpur that has one of the highest prevalence of family planning practice. Bhola from the CZ has the lowest record (2.6) while Shariatpur has the highest fertility rate (3.4). Bagerhat, Chandpur, Chittagong, Feni, Lakhshampur, Noakhali, Shatkhira all have high fertility rates of 3.0 and above. See appendix 3 for details.

#### *Marital status*

The marital status of the population over 10<sup>+</sup> years of age differs in urban and rural context. It shows that, 51.6% male and 60.9% female in rural and 46.1% male and 53.3% female in urban Bangladesh are currently married (BBS & MoWCA, 1999). On the other hand, divorce/separated/widowed rates are 1.3% among rural male and 9% among rural females. For urban male it is 1.5% and female it is 8%. Thus the national average of divorce/separated/widowed rate stands 1.4% for male and 9% for females. This indicates that there are more single women as a result of divorce, separation or spouse death than there are single men as a result of the same at the national level. Single women are relatively more insecure than single men and married women.

However the district level data on marital status suggest that, in CZ more women (15.19%) are not married compared to the national average of 13.96%, 28% are currently married, 3.67% widowed/divorced/separated which tallies well with the national average rates (BBS, 2003b). The rate of divorced women is marginally less in the coast (0.32%) than the country average (0.37%). See appendix 6 for details.

Marriage registration in Bangladesh is as high as 85.6 % (BBS & UNICEF, 2001). It is 82% on an average in the coast, the highest being 92.9% in Chandpur and lowest (56%) in Satkhira. The distribution of marriage registration has been shown in appendix 7. From a gender perspective it is important to study whether genuine marriage registration occurs and whether it begins to play a role in containing early marriage, polygamy, desertion by husbands and/or in ensuring economic and psychological security to women.

Marriage registration protects a woman's matrimonial rights and makes polygamy and indiscriminate desertions by husbands a little more difficult. Thus, this provides her with legal protection of her rights. Hence, marriage registration or its absence is an important indicator to analyze gender differences in the family and society.

Desertion as a separate indicator from divorce, where men simply leave their wives without notice (and remarry without a legal challenge) places women in an extremely insecure position. This phenomenon is existent and where marriage is not registered it can flourish. The spread of this practice demands further study.

#### *Mortality*

In absence of district level data, national statistics on age-specific mortality rate has been presented in appendix 8. However, it shows that, in the case of both male and female populations, the mortality rates are more in the lower and higher age groups. The mortality rates are higher among the male population from <1 to 15-19 age groups than the female population (BBS & MoWCA, 1999). On the contrary, from the 20-24 to 45-49 age groups female mortality rates are higher than that of the male. Needless to say, women's reproductive health and health seeking behavior are leading factors causing higher mortality rate.

However, infant mortality rate in total CZ varies between 51-68 per thousand live births and is higher than the national average while in Bangladesh 56 (BBS & UNICEF, 2001). Under five-mortality rate in Bangladesh are 92 and CZ is 80-103 (BBS & UNICEF, 2001).

Women's exposure to risk during childbirth is both evident from the low rate of access to doctors and clinics, high rate of home delivery with obstetric complication, on the one hand, and the higher vulnerability of a 'child-mother' on the other. Gender differentiation in food allocation, calorie intake, series of food taboos during pregnancy and lack of nutritional awareness (PDO-ICZMP, 2002), and poor reproductive health care (BBS & UNICEF, 2001 and see Appendix 9) are the factors known to lead to higher maternal mortality rate in CZ.

The indicators point to a need to focus on the well being of the girl child (from 0-1 year of age) in the CZ and the 'child mother' and her reproductive care by the family.

#### *Life Expectancy*

Life expectancy at birth is a summary index obtained from a life table that is the basic instrument of measurement of mortality situation of a country. There is a contrary relationship between infant mortality and life expectancy and thus the life expectancy at birth increases with the reduction in infant mortality. As the district level data is not available, here the national scenario has been depicted by sex and residence. See appendix 10 for details. Life expectancy at birth from 1991 to 2001 shows an increasing trend. In 1991, the life expectancy at birth for males and females was 56.5 and 55.7 years, which in turn increased to 68.6 years for males and 68.0 years for females in 2001 (BBS, 2003a). This clearly indicates that over the years, female and male life expectancy is gradually equalizing. This improvement also indicates that there is a substantial decline in the number of infant death.

#### *Migration*

An important demographic feature in Bangladesh is the internal and international mobility and migration that have increased in recent times. Rural to urban migration comprise 85% of all kind of migration (PDO-ICZM, 2003b). It is also considered the single most significant reason for the reduction of rural poverty, fertility and therefore perhaps improved mortality. Between 1994 and 1998 nearly 200,000 nationals went abroad and of this 2 % were women (ADB, 2001).

In the CZ, besides lifetime migration, people also resort to seasonal migration to seek employment as well as for other reasons. Migrant workers stay outside their homes for periods ranging from 4 to 280 days in a year, averaging 70 days (PDO-ICZMP, 2002). Male workers stay for longer periods (averaging 74 days) than female workers (14 days). This female migration, though still limited, is likely to increase because poverty, natural disaster and mobility are co-related. The yearly cyclones make the women of CZ particularly vulnerable. The yearly disintegration of their homes and properties keep people of the interior and the char areas on constant move.

Impoverished women increasingly seek jobs outside their homes and in this their challenge is much greater than that of men. This co-relation with respect to gender needs deeper inquiry. This challenges the 'non mobile' image of the woman.

#### **2.2.2 Socio-cultural condition**

From the social and cultural point of view, coastal women's position is rooted in their cultural practice/ traits, existing norms and values, patriarchy and the gender division of labor, some of which is discussed here.

#### *Gender Division of Labor*

As defined in the introductory analysis of coastal livelihoods (PDO-ICZMP 2003a), gender division of labor refers to the 'socially determined ideas and practices that define what roles and activities are deemed appropriate for women and men.' The PDSCL survey (PDO-ICZMP, 2002) provides an insight into this in the coastal zone.

Within the coastal area, as in other parts of Bangladesh, a dichotomy between family and society has made women mostly responsible for the production of private use values and men responsible for the production of exchange values. And women are largely involved in the non-monetized sector and in subsistence activities. With increasing poverty and breakdown of supportive kinship umbrella and also due to demand generated from certain industrial sectors women's participation in the labor market has increased since mid 1980s (ADB, 2001).

The main tasks of women in the CZ are confined to the domestic domain that includes activities performed within the homestead and non-payment jobs. Women's involvement is mainly in the non-formal and non-monetized sector while men's involvement is in the formal and monetized sector. Men are also more involved in the public domain which includes political and economic or income earning activities that take place or have impact beyond the home and relate to access to resources. This division of labor is not uncommon in the rest of Bangladesh.

**Table 2: Gender division of labor in CZ**

	Women	Men	Both
<b>Private arena</b>	Child care-nurturing Domestic tasks Livestock-poultry rearing Post harvest tasks Subsistence agricultural tasks		Water fetching Weaving Fish processing Pottery Daily prayer Teaching children
<b>Public arena</b>	Collect cow dung Collect twigs and branches Peddling Firewood selling Domestic maid	Farming Fishing Trading Daily labor Gatherer/collector Traditional healing	Daily labor Industrial labor Small trading Block farming Shrimp fry collection Milk selling Services Private tuition

Source: PDO-ICZMP, 2002

The table 2 depicts the gender division of labor in the CZ as revealed during the PDSCL (PDO-ICZMP, 2002) where men and women from the same households were interviewed separately.

The table indicates that men and women have both gender differentiated tasks as well as certain gender similar jobs. Irrespective of the main occupation of the household members, women do the majority of the work in the private domain. Though some domestic tasks maybe shared between men and women, there are no household chores done exclusively by men. However, though man perform public and economic activities, women are increasingly moving into these domains as well. Hence women are beginning to be visible both in their public role and in their traditional role in the private domain. Men's visibility is basically limited to the public domain.

In public, women execute some specific tasks that are of an expenditure-saving nature. They go out, for example, to the low-lying areas, nearby hills, forest or rivers to collect cow dung, twigs and branches used as fuel. Some women are involved in peddling, firewood selling or work as domestic maids in wealthier houses. Men and women are involved in daily labor, industrial labor, small trading, block farming, and shrimp fry collection, milk selling, services, and private tuition for their living. Outside the boundaries of home, men are farmers, fisher people, traders, daily laborers, gatherers/collectors and traditional healers.

The traditional division of labor, imposed by the sex difference, in the small farmer family is usually considered as 'natural'. Women work in seedbed preparation, transplantation, weeding, irrigation and post harvest work that requires long working hours. Men work with machinery such as ploughing, using tiller, applying fertilizers, crop harvesting and selling of produce in the market place (PDO-ICZMP, 2002).



## Gender and livelihood activities

Almost all households have multiple livelihood activities in coastal zone. Many of these activities are seasonal in nature and people tend to seek employment for as many days as possible by diversifying their options. Besides household chores, women also engage themselves in multiple “remunerative” activities. For example, a man may resort to as many as four activities (or more), such as, agriculture, fishing, cattle trading and pond aquaculture. While a woman may be engaged simultaneously in agriculture (harvesting), *muri* trading, paddy husking, livestock rearing, poultry storing and selling eggs mainly those that can be done in and around the household (PDO-ICZMP, 2003b). Table 3 shows the combination of activities that show men’s propensity to work within the monetization process and women’s in subsistence economy.

**Table 3: Combination of livelihood activities**

Male	Female
Agriculture, day labor;	Agriculture (homestead gardening), poultry raising, labor management;
Agriculture, trading;	Agriculture, livestock rearing, pond aquaculture, poultry keeping;
Agriculture, sawing (timber)	Agriculture (harvesting), paddy husking, <b>net making</b> ;
Agriculture, <b>salt production</b> , trading;	Agriculture, poultry keeping, livestock rearing, making of cow-dung fuel;
Agriculture, rickshaw van driving;	Agriculture (harvesting), <i>muri</i> trading, paddy husking, livestock rearing, poultry keeping, egg selling;
Agriculture, <b>fishing</b> , rickshaw van driving;	Day labor, <b>salt farming</b> ;
Agriculture, work in brickfield;	Day labor, <b>net making</b> , earthwork, <b>crab collection</b> , <i>kantha</i> making;
Agriculture (harvesting), paddy husking;	Day labor, <b>net repairing</b> , <b>shrimp fry collection</b> ,
Agriculture, <b>fishing</b> , cattle trading, pond aquaculture	Day labor, spice grinding;
Agriculture, <b>shrimp farming</b> , pond aquaculture, day labor;	Day labor, housemaid, fuel collection;
Day labor, <b>salt farming</b> ;	Day labor, <b>shrimp fry collection</b> , paddy husking, earth work, <i>kantha</i> making;
Day labor, <b>net repairing</b> , <b>shrimp fry collection</b>	<b>Fishing</b> , <b>net making</b> ;
<b>Fishing</b> , <b>net making</b> ;	Embroidery, handicraft making, block printing;
Pond aquaculture, trading.	<b>Shrimp farming</b> , preparing cow-dung fuel, poultry keeping.

Source: PDO-ICZMP 2002.

**■** Activity exclusive or prevalent in the coastal zone

## Mobility

Women’s mobility or lack of it in the CZ determines what she can and cannot do particularly in terms of economic activities. This in turn is determined by the socio-cultural norms, values and practices, as well as by the economic and physical condition within which they live (PDO-ICZMP, 2002). Research also show that, coastal women’s mobility is more often negatively related to the wealth index<sup>5</sup>, religiosity and cultural traits i.e., *purda* and discourses like shame/honor (CARE, 2003).

Women in the coast, as elsewhere, have begun to come out of seclusion not for ‘women’s freedom’ but in ‘search of freedom from poverty’. Development interventions, NGOs, growth of market

<sup>5</sup> Always poor women have slightly greater mobility than other wealth groups primarily due to a lack of choice rather than being a sign of greater empowerment. (CARE, 2003).

centres and health and education policies have all contributed to increased women's participation in the public sector. There is increased tendency to migrate to urban areas to work as wage laborers mainly due to the seasonal variation in employment opportunities (PDO-ICZMP, 2003a). However, in coastal rural context, women's propensity to work in other farm holdings is lower (2.32%) than the national rate 2.97% (BBS, 1999). For details, see Appendix 11.

Physical condition and facility, namely, good road networks and centers of growth are factors that encourage women's mobility because roads and marketing outlets are critically important for increased social mobility and economic activities. Statistics show that coastal zone has a slightly higher density of roads 0.71 km/km<sup>2</sup> compared to 0.69 km/km<sup>2</sup> nationally and lower market densities: the average area per growth centre is 80 km<sup>2</sup> compared to 66 km<sup>2</sup> outside the coastal zone (PDO-ICZMP, 2003b). Naturally long distances between centers discourage women from going to these places. Thus this lack of mobility makes access to markets and, therefore, economic activities relatively more difficult for women.

Moreover social attitudes and beliefs also limit women's mobility. This is what a woman, Sabekkunnahar from Chittagong coast, had to say:

**Box 1: Clannish view – response to social norms and value**

*We are many in the family. My husband never allows me to work as day laborer. Though we are not rich, we have a social status. As Muslim women we cannot go out even with borkha.*  
*Sabekkunnahar, Chittagong coast*

Source: PDO-ICZMP, 2002

Above all, mobility increases with improved sense of public security. And public security is threatened when society is socially and politically unstable and governance is weak. Several coastal districts (such as Bhola, Patuakhali, Jhalokathi, Pirojopur, Barisal), during the last Union Parishad elections, faced confrontation and violence. A weak law and order condition and poor administrative response aggravated this. Women were targets of vicious attacks and their mobility (going out to vote) was seriously restricted in several places (Murshid, 2003).

The PDSCL survey thus correctly identifies the deteriorating law and order situation in the coastal zone as a major worry, resulting in restricted mobility and increased insecurity particularly for women (PDO-ICZMP, 2002). This phenomenon, according to the IPRSP (ERD, 2003), is attributed to weakening governance, criminalized politics, corruption, violation of citizen's rights, breakdown of traditional moral order and intolerant political culture.

### 2.2.3 Economic condition

Women's relative economic position, presented here ascribes to such factors, as women's labor force and employment situation, their access to and control over resources and decision-making processes and wage rate as compared to that of men.

#### *Labor force and employment situation*

The coastal zone provides 33% or 17.4 million (BBS, 2002) of the total national labor force of 53.5 million for the 15 years and above age group (Appendix 12). Of this, 37% is female.

In Bangladesh 72% urban active labor force and 60% rural active labor force is male. In urban CZ 71% and in rural CZ 61% is male active labor force. The rural and urban male labor composition is almost the same as the national rate but the rural active labor force is slightly higher in CZ.

The female labor force, similarly, shows urban CZ as 29% and rural CZ as 39% as against the Bangladesh urban average of 28% and rural 40% (BBS, 2002). The gender composition of active labor force in CZ follows the national standard for men and women.

Statistics on female employment in agricultural farm holding (Appendix 10) shows that self-employment rate is lower in coastal zone (11%) than in the rest of the country (12%). The rate at which women engage in unpaid labor in the coastal zone (18.5%) is slightly higher than that of national rate 18.24% (BBS & MoWCA, 1999).

Moreover, women are becoming more and more involved with the typical coastal zone specific livelihood activities.

#### *Income and expenditure*

Household income and expenditure are important sources of socio-economic information, and benchmark for measuring the quality of life and livelihood pattern of men and women. These determine the poverty profile of areas and provide information about living standards and nutritional status of target groups, permitting the assessment of gender variations. In relation to this, the PDSCL survey findings provide some good insights, particularly on gender-differentiated disposal of income (Table 4).

**Table 4: Disposal of income**

Stratum	Respondent	Use of income (%)		
		Consumption	Social payment	Investment
Very poor	Male	63	4	33
	Female	69	7	24
Poor	Male	52	5	43
	Female	59	9	32
Medium	Male	55	5	40
	Female	46	8	46
Above poverty	Male	44	9	47
	Female	20	10	70
Rich	Male	36	7	57
	Female*			

Source: PDO-ICZMP, 2002 (\*Female/rich category of data was not available).

It is found that men and women use income mostly for consumption, social payments and investments. Investments are quite high, while expenses for social payments are low. Investments by the respondents are considered to be the recurring expenses for economic activities such as rearing poultry (variable capital). Consumption expenses decline inversely with the socio-economic status of the households. Income disposal for consumption among women is higher than that of men in the poor strata and lower than that of men from the mid to rich strata. The proportion of investment by women is also more in the 'above poverty strata'.

According to Ahuja's (1978) Economic Theory, rural women in Bangladesh consume all they earn which is called the 'breakeven point' - which is a point where rural women can neither save nor 'dis-save' but consume all that they earn.

The Table 4 below gives a gender profile of income disposal in the CZ. The trend tends to confirm Ahuja's theory. The table shows that women from the 'very poor' category spend more than two thirds of their income on consumption while women at the 'above poverty' level spend only one fifth of her income on consumption. Conversely, the 'very poor' woman makes the least investment (24%) and the 'above poverty' woman makes the most investment (70%).

The table also shows that in the case of both men and women, as they climb the economic strata, the percentage of income used for consumption appears to decrease and the proportion for social payment and investment increases.

#### Wage Rate

As already explained, traditionally women are largely employed in the 'unpaid' or the 'non monetized' sector and in subsistence activities. Women's participation in the labor market has increased since the mid 1980s mainly due to two forces:

- ◇ Increased poverty and the breakdown of the family kinship and support system (built on the myth that the patriarchy protects the woman)
- ◇ Demand generated by such sectors as the garment and shrimp industries.

However, wage exploitation or use of women's cheap labor holds back women's empowerment in general. Data on female agricultural wage rates is more scattered and incomplete, but the data that is available, suggests a less rosy picture for the female rural wage laborers (PDO-ICZMP 2003a). The draft final report of "Vulnerability Analysis of Major Livelihood Groups in Coastal Zone of Bangladesh" (CEGIS 2003) suggests that low female wage rate is a vulnerability factor among the female rural wage laborers in coastal areas. This is also linked to the social constraints of female labor.

In Bangladesh the average wage rate (in Taka) of the day laborer by gender is depicted in Table 5.

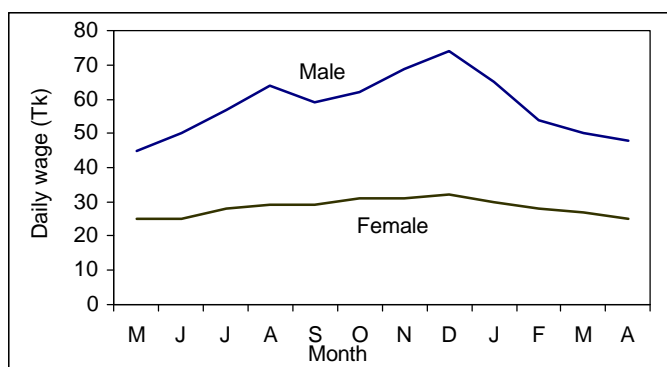
**Table 5: Average wage rate of the day laborer**

Sex	Bangladesh	Rural	Urban
Male	46	44	60
Female	26	25	36

Source: CPD-UNFPA, 2002

The data above shows that the female laborer gets nearly 50% less than the male gets at all levels.

Wage rates have their seasonality, depending upon the demand for that labor. The following figure indicates that wages reach their peaks usually during the transplantation and harvesting periods of main crops, such as T. Aman, which is planted in July-August and harvested in November-December. Female wage rates in the char are between Tk. 20-30, whereas male wage rates range from Tk.40 to 70<sup>+</sup>. Hence, gender disparity in wage rates among char dwellers is high.



**Figure 2: Fluctuation of agriculture wage rate**

The figure above shows that for the same job women's wage remains at the same level through out the year while men's wage increases during August to December followed by a downward trend but

never going below the woman's wage level. Women receive half (Tk.20) of the minimum wage that men receive (Tk.40) (PDO-ICZMP, 2003b based on CDSP data on Char Mora Dona).

#### *Access to resources*

PDSCL survey findings (PDO-ICZMP, 2002) reveal the gender differences in access to livelihood assets (Appendix 13). In coastal areas men usually have access to resources related to the public arena (membership of NGO, Union Parishad, access to land, water etc.), whereas women's resources are mostly related to the private spheres (furniture, household utilities, poultry, sewing machines, jewellery, etc).

Women seldom have access to both land and water and hold land titles in their own names. Across the wealth index only women from non-poor households own farmland both through inheritance and bought by their husband in their name. In case of female-headed households, a large percentage of women have ownership over inherited agricultural land and the homestead. These are usually either inherited from parents or their husband (in the case of a widow), or are actually owned by the husband but registered in the wife's name. Most of the women, however, do not have the authority to decide if they want to sell it or transfer it (CARE, 2003). It clearly shows the differences between men and women's roles and responsibilities.

Regional differences, religious values, social norms, the law and order situation, limited mobility affect women's access to common property resources, infrastructure and formal and non-formal institutions and services. These gender differences in accessing resources are determined by family norms, patron-client relationships, power relations, informal wage agreements, etc. Women's acceptance of their secondary claims on household resources not only undermines their own well-being but also limits their contribution to sustainable livelihood.

While, credit program for the poor is considered a 'minimal' approach to poverty eradication, which ignores social barriers and is indifferent to who controls the money (usually husbands control the larger amounts that are borrowed), it is a means of making some resources available to women. The credit program itself challenges the patriarchal notions by giving access to resources to women and, thus, improving their position in decision-making.

It should be noted that NGOs provide micro credit to some 8 million people mostly women (World Bank, 1998) and their numbers have increased substantially over the years. However, studies show that access to financial resources alone does not reduce gender inequalities and it is difficult to infer that increased borrowing alone improves women's bargaining power because 'the question of who controls the resources is quite complex' (BRDB, 1998).

The PDSCL survey also finds increased savings opportunities among women as a result of membership with NGOs and micro credit programs. This has increased their access to financial resources and raised their mobility. Interference of male members, especially husbands, is found particularly high where the loaned amount is big (ADB, 2001). But, NGOs and CBOs also contribute positively to encourage women to participate in training sessions in the village, and in loan repayment meetings (CARE, 2003), which helps them in better loan management.

#### *Control over resources, assets and capital*

Findings of the PDSCL survey show that women usually have control over poultry, homestead vegetation, children and daughters in law. Women, however, loose control over resources like inherited land and credit. This is mainly due to the payments that they have to make for the purposes of dowry and daughter's marriage.

Even if women make active contribution to the household economy, compared to men, women tend to have very limited control over resources and have even less decision making power. In contrast with rural areas, women in urban areas have more control over their resources and earnings.

Both men and women consider micro credit and vocational skill training of particular importance. As part of the NGO policy, women borrowers are preferred in micro credit programs and this is the reason for women to come out of the boundaries of their homes.

Women sometimes manage to use the loan to increase their family income. The power to make small purchases, hold assets in their own name and increased awareness are some examples of the positive influence of increased access to micro credit. At the same time, increased access to loans also have risks for women particularly when the loans taken are used and controlled by the men and women have no say in deciding where and how to invest/spend the money. Studies show that credit does not seem to contribute to the economic empowerment of women to the extent it was intended and believed to do (CPD-UNFPA, 2002). Just a credit program will not empower or change the lot of the women in Bangladesh.

Although at one level micro credit has been an empowering experience, at another level, as observed by the PDSCL survey findings, it reflects the ambiguity of the impact of the micro credit system upon the position of coastal women and the household poverty situation. This skepticism is expressed in various studies.

The lower mobility of women easily traceable and available makes them better borrowers, giving NGOs greater control over such client. Investment in women proves more viable as their repayment rates are higher than that of men.

#### *Decision making process*

Survey findings show that women's participation in decision making tends to be limited to decisions on small consumer purchases, buying of food, household consumption items, health care matters and schooling for children etc. In contrast, men take decisions on market transactions, on major assets and marriage of children. Men tend to take all the financial and economic decisions but women are slowly becoming more involved in this decision making process by spending their own earnings/loans and cash incomes for the well being of their homes as per their choice.

Partly due to seasonal migration of their husbands, women are forced to take their own decision and responsibility. In case of financial crisis women take decision to sell assets such as poultry, cattle or to borrow money from others. Sometimes they have to go out for their children's treatment. Situations where the male is inactive, ill or unemployed or the family is large, act as catalyst for women's involvement in productive work. That in turn gives some economic sovereignty and decision-making powers to the woman.

There is a noticeable shift in women's position in the public domain, particularly, in the Union Parishad. Women as elected representatives of the community acquire new heights in sharing power and public responsibility. Women are in a better position to take decisions than they ever were before.

Along with representation in local government, women's participation and leadership within NGO groups also grows. In these groups they voice their needs, priorities and choice. They share their experiences with each other. For many women her power source is the 'group'- the collective- and the best part of her life is being part of this.

### 2.2.4 Health and nutrition

Given the size of the population, health receives inadequate budget allocation at the household level. Women are generally more disadvantaged than men in terms of access to health care both due to lower mobility and family neglect.

Women family members are less likely to receive modern medical care and they generally rely on traditional and cheap methods of health care. Women suffer from severe malnutrition more often than men in Bangladesh. Severe malnutrition in CZ is slightly higher at 6% than the national average of 5%. In CZ it is higher in women at 8% than in men which is 4%. This is also higher than the national 6% average among women with severe malnutrition (BBS & UNICEF, 2001).

According to CPD-UNFPA (2002) “while boys and girls get less than the recommended daily dietary allowances, girls intake are even more deficient leading to related disorders and illness” and the tragedy is that a biologically stronger girl child finds herself with higher morbidity and lower mortality rates as a result of negligence and lack of proper care at birth. The health and nutritional status, and therefore, gender disparity of the girl child in Bangladesh and the CZ is worse than the boy child.

The health status of women in the CZ is analyzed here in terms of some important indicators, such as, access to safe water, access to sanitation, nutritional status, IMR, health infrastructures and types of reproductive health services.

#### *Health infrastructure*

Main health infrastructure i.e., hospitals, clinics, Upazila health complex and dispensaries are shown in Appendix 14. The data shows that the coastal zone lags behind in the development of adequate health infrastructures. For example, there is one hospital per 475,000 people (against one for 400,000 people in the rest of Bangladesh), and one rural dispensary per 110,000 people (compared to one per 86,000 people elsewhere in Bangladesh). The Upazila health complexes are more or less equally distributed: one per 300,000 people in the coastal zone, and one per 290,000 people elsewhere. In terms of population-hospital bed ratio, there is one hospital bed per 3,782 persons on an average in the coastal zone compared to 2,764 persons outside coastal zone (Appendix 15).

Health infrastructure generally is very inadequate in Bangladesh. In the CZ it is even more inadequate. In view of the comparatively worse health conditions of the women in Bangladesh and the CZ, inadequate facilities will only make things more difficult for women than men particularly in view of high maternal mortality, poor obstetric care and higher morbidity.

Coastal women are more affected by this insufficient health setting. The following narrative says it all.

#### **Box 2: A child dies without health care**

*After marriage I have never been happy due to poverty. I lost my ten years old daughter who died about 12 years ago. She was sick for about fifteen days. She had fever and rokto bomi (vomiting blood). We could not bring her to doctor or buy any medicine for her.*

*Sayera Banu, Lakshmipur*

Source: PDO-ICZMP, 2002

The state of reproductive health among coastal women is worse than among women elsewhere in Bangladesh. Nearly 96% as against 92% (national average) women have home deliveries. Of these 80% by untrained persons such as neighbours and relatives and only 12% by trained TBAs (national average is 13%). Chittagong has the maximum number of trained attendants and Lakshmipur has the

least but CZ has more than 90% deliveries at home (BBS & UNICEF, 2001). For details see Appendix 9.

Consistent use of maternal services (such as antenatal care and delivery care) is absent in the coastal areas. Survey findings show that the patterns of antenatal care and practice are poor in coastal divisions (NIPORT, 2002). The percentage distribution of receiving no antenatal care (women with more than one birth in last three years) for either birth is the highest in Barisal (68%), followed by Chittagong (56%) and Khulna (41.0%) (NIPORT, 2002).

Under Five mortality rate in the coastal districts is 92 per thousand live births (same as national average); IMR is 58 in the CZ. The highest rate is in Feni (68) and Cox's bazaar (67) and lowest in Noakhali 51 and it is 56 in Bangladesh (BBS & UNICEF, 2001). For details, see Appendix 3.

Data on CZ specific Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) is essential for gender analysis of health as this is often a sensitive socio-economic indicator linked to social negligence of pregnant mothers in the family. Given equal health status between CZ and Bangladesh, women in CZ would still be more vulnerable due to the comparatively weaker health infrastructure that is found there.

#### *Women and access to safe water and sanitation*

Basic sanitation facilities play a very important role in public health. In the coastal districts, a higher number of households (46%) has sanitary latrines compared to 34% outside the coastal zone (BBS, 2003b). Within the coastal zone, access to sanitary latrines is low in Bhola (27%), Patuakhali (23%), and Cox's Bazar (29%) and relatively high in Feni (64%) and Khulna (59%). See appendix 17 for details.

Safe water crisis is acute in the coastal population. Women as the main water user and collector have to carry the burden of finding safe water. Statistics shows that (Appendix 18) access to safe drinking water in the coastal region is less than that of the non-coastal regions where there is an average of 110 persons compared to 116 persons per tube-well having access to some water. Main sources of water are tap, tube well, deep tube well and surface water such as ponds and others (Appendix 16). According to BBS 2003, only 4% households have access to 'tap water' in coastal districts, which is much lower than that of Bangladesh (6%). On the other hand, 68% coastal households have access to tube wells, which is lower than that of Bangladesh (80%). However, statistics shows that, access to deep tube well is much higher in CZ (16%) than BD (5%). However, this data has to be viewed with some skepticism in the absence of specific information on whether this water data excludes arsenic contaminated water source or not.

There is an urgent need to assess the availability of safe water in the context of arsenic contamination of ground water and its resulting impact on gender as this will have far reaching implications on the gains that 'development' hopes to make in this region. Without this assessment the data given above will not fully reflect the total health and poverty situation of the CZ.

It maybe mentioned here that some of the worst arsenic affected districts are in the CZ, some of which include Barisal, Feni, Noakhali and Lakshmipur which have unacceptable levels of arsenic in its ground water.

#### **2.2.5 Education**

Government of Bangladesh is keen to increase female literacy rate and elaborate programmes supported by substantial allocation are the instances of enabling women's participation in education and in various socio-economic activities (BBS & MoWCA, 1999). Boys are perceived as the ones that will ultimately take care of the parents and sending them to school and investing in their education is preferred over girls. However, the primary level enrollment rates for girls have gone up



remarkably. The gap between male and female enrollment, which stood at 22 percent in 1985, declined to 3 percent over the past decade and a half. (ADB, 2001).

Although in Bangladesh noteworthy achievements have been made in female enrollment at the primary level, progress in improving quality of education and consolidating secondary education has been painstakingly slow. At this level male and female enrollment rates improved by 5 and 10 percent points, respectively, between 1985 and 1995. At the primary level, girl's enrollment is increasing. It has risen from 45 percent in 1990 to 49 in 2000. At the secondary level the drop out rate of female students reach half, higher by 10 percent than the rate of male students (BBS, 1998). This obviously adversely affects HRD and the overall rate of return from education and women's labor market entitlement.

Education of children irrespective of sex has been perceived as an important human asset. Statistical measures show that, literacy rate from 7+ years onward for both sex in CZ is 51%, which is much higher than the national average of 45% (BBS, 2003b) and also for the female, the percentage is higher for the CZ (CZ: 47%, BD: 41%) but lower compared to male (CZ: 54%, BD: 50%). In case of adult literacy rate<sup>6</sup>, the same picture persists. About 57% (Male: 61%, Female: 49%) adults are literate in CZ that is also higher than the national average (Both: 47, Male: 54%, Female: 41%). Coastal women are in a favorable condition both in terms of the literacy of 7+ and 15 years onward. See Appendix 19 for details.

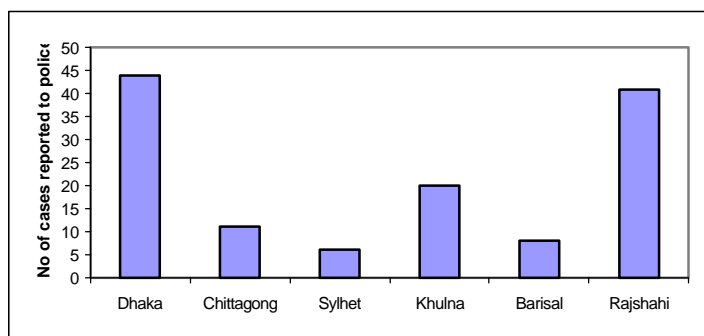
However, gross enrolment rate in primary schools in CZ poses a different picture than that of the literacy rate. In CZ gross enrollment rate is slightly lower (95) than outside coastal zone (98) but the gross enrolment rate for girls is a bit higher (98 in the coastal zone and outside). Schooling facility in the locality often influences access to education. The primary school-population ratio is relatively higher in the coastal zone. However, the school-population ratio is lower in greater Chittagong and Noakhali (Appendix 20).

### 2.2.6 Violence

Violence against women is a common phenomenon in coastal zone that includes domestic violence, trafficking, rape and sexual abuse, acid throwing etc. PDSCL survey revealed that women experience domestic violence frequently in the hands of their husbands or their families. Young women cannot go out to public places very often due to the presence of musclemen and it is because of this perceived threat many grown up girls remain at home and do not attend secondary school. In rural area female heads of households face more personal insecurity than the 'housewives' due to lack of male protection in such households. Cases like acid throwing and rape occurs more frequently. Family and land disputes, refusal of marriage proposals, rejection of sexual advances, political vengeance, and unmet dowry demand are some of the reasons behind this violence against women.

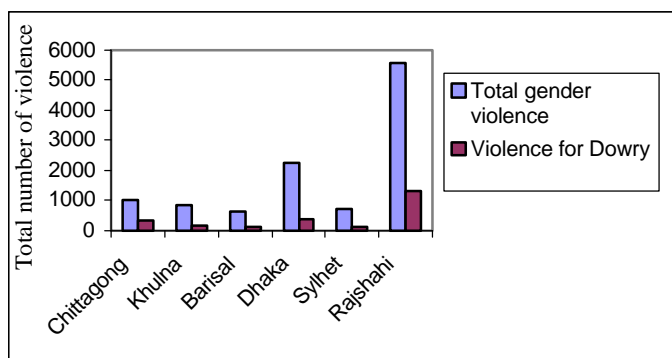
Most cases remain unreported to the police as the law and order situation in coastal areas remain precarious especially in the Char and in the remote areas where people become hostages in the hands of musclemen and cronies.

According to the data from Acid Survival Association (2002), only 130 cases of acid attacks were reported to the police. Division wise variations are shown in figure 3. The number reported is highest in Dhaka and Rajshahi while in the coast there is a lower rate of reporting. From this, however, one cannot conclusively say that there are less incidences of violence in the coast without assessing what percentage of incidences actually get reported. An assessment of what gets reported and what does not and why, would give a better account of the violence profile of CZ.



**Figure 3: Division wise reported acid attacks**

A report of News Network 2002 has shown in a statistical measure of the 6 divisions that, during January-November 2001, only 10989 cases of gender violence were reported to the police department of which 2464 cases of violence were due to unmet dowry demands. Figure 4 Show the division wise variation in reporting to the police. Again Dhaka and Rajshahi has the largest number of reported cases which maybe due to an active media and greater awareness in the big cities. Nonetheless the number of cases that do not get reported in the coast needs to be studied to determine the true scale of violence existent.



**Figure 4: Reported gender violence and violence for dowry**

<sup>6</sup> Adult literacy rate is defined as the number of people aged 15 years and above with ability to write a letter in any language.

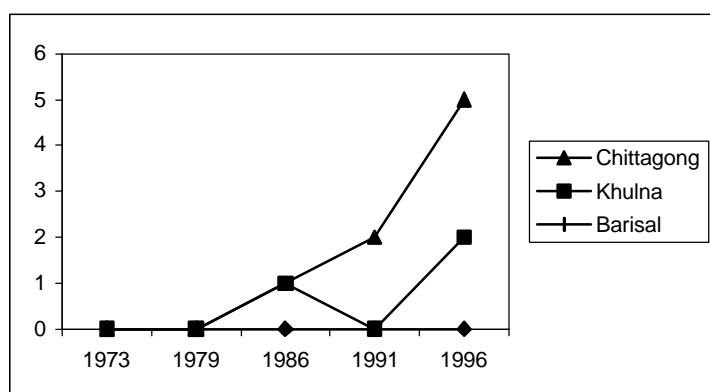
### 3 WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC LIFE

#### 3.1 Women in public sector

Women's participation in public life has increased in recent years. Here, participation in public life is limited to a discussion on the visibility of women in government service, in the electoral process and local governance and local level institutions.

In general, the distribution of public sector and government employees by service category and sex reveals that percentage of female employees has increased. Despite this increase, the ministries and departments fail to fulfill the 15% minimum government fixed quota for women within its pro-women policy. In the absence of district wise disaggregated data coastal women's participation rate cannot be presented here separately though the issue needs some elaboration.

Women's participation in national politics has not done as well as women in local government are presently doing. Women in local government (Union Parishad particularly) is forging ahead with fast changes in participation while women in national politics, are still struggling for direct elections to reserved seats for women in the Parliament.



**Figure 5: Women's participation trend in parliament election**

Women's participation in cabinet or national election is still low, though the reserved female seats have increased from 15 in 1973 to 30 in later years- a poor indicator of women's empowerment. Data from Bangladesh Election Commission shows that the number of elected female candidates has increased from 0 in 1973 to 11 only in 1996. The figure 5 shows that female participation in Chittagong division has increased since 1991 and hold the highest rate in female participation. Khulna division is in second position, while Barisal is lagging far behind. Although, women started to directly contest since 1986, none succeeded till the 1990 election. More gender specific and coast specific data maybe generated. In 2001, there were 6 elected women along with 30 women from reserved seats in the parliament. Generally the few women in national politics are mostly from CZ specially Feni, Gopalganj, Chittagong and Khulna.

#### 3.2 Women and local government

In 1997, for the first time Bangladeshi women stood for direct elections from reserved seats in local government (Union Parishad) election, which was a major policy support in breaking the status quo of women's low participation. On the one hand, it gave real representation and authority to women (through an elected rather than a selected position) and greater presence in the UP (having a

greater constituency than that of men). On the other hand, a new challenge was thrust upon women who were both unskilled and unprepared for the hostility and intolerance of male colleagues, who refused to share responsibilities and 'lucrative' projects with women members. They even threatened to throw her out of 'his' constituency (which is also a part of the women's constituency) if she worked there. (Murshid, 2002)

Despite these difficulties, women candidates as chairmen has increased by 22% over the last 23 years (Election Commission source); in the last UP elections (2003) there was a decrease in the number of women standing from reserved seats. There was also a significant increase in women standing from general seats- a clear indication of women gaining in confidence (Murshid, 2003).

However, the examples given here of male resistance and hostility to women's position of power are also indicative of a deeper gender hostility. The coastal area, with its remoteness and isolation, becomes more significant in terms of both the negative and positive effects of local governance on women. The dilemma of the elected women members from reserved seats can be well understood from the following examples:

### Box 3: Reflection of women's new identity

<i>Denied ability to help</i>	<i>Self confidence to move about</i>
<i>Rushia Panna, a member of Gulishakhali Union Parishad of Mathbaria thana in the Pirojpur district. Her husband is a haji and retired madrasa teacher was not in favor of her participation in election. In her own words, " the people from the three wards came to my house to congratulate me after my win that, I visited before the election and promised to solve their problem. But now I see I cannot do anything for them because of the male members that makes me feel guilty. I am not given any responsibility, if I could construct some roads and culverts in my area I could have earn respect of the people! Male members receive ten Widow Allowance Cards for one Ward and I get same number for three wards. How can I make people happy?"</i>	<i>Pakija Begum (52) was elected as a member for twice in the reserved seat of the Sharikait Union of Sandwip upazila in Chittagong District. She belonged to very poor family and was unaware of the political rights of women. She became the member of the BNPS and through her regular participation she achieved knowledge on democratic, political and social-human rights. She was active in familial and community conflict resolution process. She was pro active in any kind of disparities done by the male UP members regarding VGD, VGF distribution issue. She used to meet with the MP and discussed women's issues to draw attention. She attended 40 shalish successfully. She remained inactive for 15 months under the threat of the local musclemans who forced her to withdraw her candidature in 2003, but she didn't listen to them. As a root level female leader she gave interview to the German Radio. Her confidence and led her to this success.</i>

Source: Murshid 2002, BNPS 2003

### 3.3 Women's participation in local level institutions

The essence of the case studies undertaken by PDO-ICZMP (2003) in CDSP, KJDRP shows that mainstreaming gender is a process that takes place gradually in local level institutional arrangements. Through policy support of the Government and NGO collaboration, this can only be seen as a process. To create systematic institutional arrangements, operational guidelines and strategies, women must participate at all levels of designing and implementation of development programs but this continues to be difficult. Usually the following measures are taken for women's effective inclusion in local institutions:

- ◇ mandatory women membership either by quota or otherwise;
- ◇ training on gender roles and needs; and
- ◇ gender awareness to raise women's voice in meetings, etc.

As a result, women's participation in institution building process for resource mobilization, resource management, such as, water management, O&M, is in fact increasing. Even at local level institutions (e.g. water committees, UP projects etc.) are beginning to realize that policies demand that space be created for women. The challenge remains whether these institutions can survive beyond the projects as most tend to wither away after the project ends.



## 4 GENDER IN CZ: DISPARITY & STATUS

### 4.1 A quick overview

The key elements of what has, so far, been discussed are summarized in the following table to provide an overall sense of the position of gender in the coastal zone.

**Table 6: A summary of women's status in the coastal zone**

	Indicators	Unit	CZ	Non-CZ	BD	Ref Yr.	Source
Demographic	Population	million	35.08	88.77	123.85	2001	BBS, 2003b
	Female population	million	17.13	42.82	59.95	2001	BBS, 2003b
	Male/female ratio	ratio	104.7	107.3	106.6	2001	BBS, 2003b
	HH size	persons/hh	5.1	4.8	4.9	2001	BBS, 2003b
	FHH	% of total	2.7	3.77	3.48	1996	BBS, 1999
Economic	Female active labor force	% of total	37	38	37	2002	BBS, 1999
	Female self employment	% of total (agri)	28	30	29	1996	BBS, 1999
	Female unpaid farm helper	% of total (agri)	52	52	52	1996	BBS, 1999
	Female labor in other holding	% of total (agri)	11	14	13	1996	BBS, 1999
Education	Literacy rate 7+ yrs	% of female	47	38	41	2001	BBS, 2003b
	Literacy rate 15+ yrs	% of female	49	38	41	2001	BBS, 2003b
	Girls in primary school	% of total	50.02	48.72	49	2001	DPE, 2003
	Enrolment rate in pri sch.	% of girl	98	98	98	2001	DPE, 2003
Health	Access to safe water						
	TW	% of hh	68.41	83.97	79.77	2001	BBS, 2003b
	DTW	% of hh	15.57	0.95	8.42	2001	BBS, 2003b
	Tap	% of hh	4.00	6.68	5.96	2001	BBS, 2003b
	Access to sanitation	% of hh	46	34	37	2001	BBS, 2003b
	IMR	per 000	51-68		56	2000	BBS & UNICEF, 2001
	TFR		3.1		3	2000	BBS & UNICEF, 2001
Severe malnutrition (12-59 m)	% of girl	8	5	6	2000	BBS & UNICEF, 2001	

The table above shows that female population in coastal zone is 17.13 million and in BD, it is 59.95 million. The sex ratio is 104.7 compared to 106.6 outside the coastal zone.

Average size of households is 5.1 and is higher than that of other parts of the country (4.8). There is a big difference between the distribution of female-headed household in CZ (2.68%) and BD (3.48%). Besides, seasonal migration, marital status, female mobility and employment opportunity are the consequences of household composition in coastal areas that induces increase or decrease of the FHH numbers within the coastal livelihood category.

Table 6 shows that, woman's participation in active labor force (37%) is second to her working as unpaid farm helper (which is equivalent to the national 52%). This is the largest category of work involvement for both men and women though more women do unpaid work than men. The tendency to use women for cheap labor is a national phenomenon. In the non-CZ area active labor force is 38%. However, active female labor force is emerging as a result of the tendency of a shift in women's occupation whereby they take up new productive roles (e.g. as laborers in the shrimp industry) as a result of the awareness campaigns by the Government and NGOs.

On the other hand, female self-employment rate in agriculture in CZ is 28%, in non-CZ is 30% and in BD in general it is 29%. This may be due to a lower distribution of agricultural household (25.9%) in the coastal zone (PDO-ICZMP, 2003b).

Women's lower participation in working in other holdings (in CZ 11%, in non-CZ 14% and in BD 13% in general) is indicative to both, restrictive mobility and lack of employment opportunities .

To improve women's living standards and enabling women to exercise greater right to decision-making at house hold level, community, place of paid work and in public life, education is what the woman needs to stand on.

The female literacy profile shows that female adult literacy and literacy of girls above 7 years is higher in CZ (49%, 47%) compared to both in non-CZ (38%, 38%) and generally in BD (41%, 41%), respectively.

Ratio of girls in primary school is higher in CZ (50.02) than in non-CZ and in BD (48.72, 49.09). Besides, the gross enrolment rate for girls is at the same rate everywhere (98). This increase in enrolment is seen as the result of a gender sensitive government policy and a high incentive drive to reduce gender gaps in education. However, the literacy rate of women on an average, covering all age groups, falls far shorter than men's in the CZ. Retention of girls at a higher level remains a major problem and demands a socio-economic analysis.

Health is another basic development indicator showing health related practice and the availability of services and facilities. The health behavior of men and women in family and society, the gender differentiated access and provision of services and facilities are critical Human Development Indicators. And these together define the health status of the men and women in society.

As a part of their social well-being women's health condition in coastal zone, can be measured in terms of Infant Mortality (IMR) and fertility rates and nutritional status in the absence of a more comprehensive gender desegregated data.

IMR per 1000 population in CZ is higher (58) than generally in BD (56), which is linked with the insufficient health infrastructure and poor maternal health services provided to coastal women. Total fertility rate is slightly higher in CZ 3.1 compare to BD 3. More girl-children aged 11-59 months suffer from malnutrition in CZ than in BD (about 8% in CZ and 5% in BD).

## 4.2 Positive and Negative Aspects of Gender in CZ

### 4.2.1 Positive Aspects

- ◇ Sex ratio is lower than national average.
- ◇ Literacy rate is higher than national average
- ◇ Number of divorced women is lower than national level.
- ◇ U5MR is at the same level as national average.
- ◇ Mobility of women is at least at the same level as national.
- ◇ Better road network in CZ is a positive environment for women's mobility.
- ◇ Active labor force is the same for both for CZ and Bangladesh but rural active labor force for women is higher in the CZ.
- ◇ Women in CZ have growing access to micro credit and there is an increase in NGO activities and savings opportunities.
- ◇ Gross enrollment for girls is higher than national average.
- ◇ More women from CZ visible in national politics.
- ◇ Fewer female headed households than national average

### 4.2.2 Negative Aspects

- ◇ Fertility rate is higher than national in CZ.
- ◇ More women remain unmarried in CZ.



- ◇ IMR in CZ is higher than that of national average specially of the girl child.
- ◇ Interior coast of CZ has the maximum fisher communities and female-headed households compared to mainland and exposed coast in CZ.
- ◇ Women work largely in domestic and non-monitized sector and men in public and monitized sector that can be identified as ‘strong gender imbalance’.
- ◇ Women are less than half than men in active labor force in CZ.
- ◇ Wage rate of women in CZ is lower than national average whether rural, urban or overall. Women receive half of the minimum wage that men get.
- ◇ Women have no land or water entitlements other than through male members.
- ◇ Severe malnutrition is slightly higher than national. In CZ it is twice as high among women than men.
- ◇ Health infrastructure is more inadequate in CZ.
- ◇ Reproductive health condition for women in CZ is worse than in Bangladesh.
- ◇ Gross enrollment is lower in CZ (though for girls, it is same as national average).

The positive and negative aspects of gender in CZ give a fairly good picture of gender status. The above analysis will help to set priorities for action and program for the coast.

### 4.3 Gender disparity in CZ compared to other districts

According to CPD-UNFPA (2002), “a gender disaggregated accurate data base is a must for analytical and policy formulation purposes. Nowhere is the paucity of database, as acute as in the area of women’s economic activities.” To add to this, data at the district level are also limited and seldom reliable, therefore one has to limit to a few available indices to make an approximate assessment of gender and construct a gender ranking that permits comparisons with other areas.

On the basis of three major variables, namely total population, literacy rate and proportion of economically active population, a gender disparity ranking has been undertaken using data mainly from the Bangladesh Statistical yearbook, 1998 and the Bangladesh Labor Force Survey 1995-1996. CPD-UNFPA has developed a Gender Related Development Index for 64 Districts of Bangladesh and has ranked the districts according to gender disparity. Since this status paper uses much the same database, it would be useful to present here the gender ranking to assess where the CZ stands with respect to other districts of Bangladesh. This analysis throws light on the relative position of the CZ districts regarding gender. For details see Appendix 21.

According CPD-UNFPA (2002), as many as 11 out of the 19 CZ districts fall under ‘low gender disparity’ category, only 6 fall under ‘medium disparity’ and 2 fall under high disparity.

#### *Low Gender Disparity Areas (score: 0-3)*

All together 35 out of the 64 districts fell under low gender disparity of which 11 districts are from the CZ. These districts are Barisal, Bhola, Patuakhali, Jhalokathi, Pirojpur, Barguna, Jessore, Magura, Narail, Bagerhat, Chittagong, and Noakhali.

#### *Medium Gender Disparity areas (4-7)*

Only 16 districts out of 64 fall under ‘medium gender disparity’, of which 6 are from the CZ. These are Khulna, Cox’s Bazar, Chandpur, Gopalganj, Feni and Lakshipur

#### *High Gender Disparity (8-12)*

8 districts in Bangladesh are identified as ‘high gender disparity’ areas. Of these, only Satkhira and Shariatpur are from the CZ.



## 5 CONCLUDING REMARKS

This attempt to analyze the position of women in the coastal zone compared to the men and the rest of the country brings out both the vulnerability and the strength of the coastal people compared to the rest of the country. Surprisingly, the CZ comes out well in certain aspects of gender development. Moreover, the gender development index is higher than the human development index in Bangladesh.

Despite some gender gaps in the CZ are slowly narrowing, such as higher female literacy profile or a gender balanced population, still continuing differences between men and women in health, access to assets as well as access to and control over technology, personal security and participation in political process indicates that development investments and programs do not benefit women equitably.

Efforts made so far in removing gender gaps have mainly focused economic empowerment of both women and men. This remains a necessary condition but not a sufficient one for the full emancipation from subordination.

Since, discrimination against girls and women starts from the beginning of their life, (refer to the discrimination girls experience in the CZ during the 0-14 years age group) and in their own families, changes are needed in the private spheres in order to bring changes in the lives of women in the public sphere.

Coastal zone in many ways remains more difficult to develop than other parts of Bangladesh due to the erratic climatic effects; the harshness of the char and its people who live in constant conflict over what they do not own but must have to survive; the recurring impoverishment of women and children, the first victims of this harsh life and a slow 'withering away' of the family support system that has thrown the woman into a jungle where she must struggle to create space for herself and become a productive member of society or perish.

The positive gains girls have made in going to primary school could not be sustained in the secondary level. The higher mortality rate girls have at childbirth gradually equalizes with boys as they grow. Improving boys mortality rate at childbirth is critical while sustaining the girls' mortality rate. The empowerment that women experienced through micro credit will all be for nothing if they do not have the right to decision making; and if arsenic toxicity in drinking water wears away the woman's health, finance and family. Women's power base in local government increases slowly and steadily, but remains constantly challenged, at times even thwarted, by men. The gains are unstable and must be nurtured. It is in the context of this reality that a gender strategy must be incorporated into the coastal development strategy to bring about the desired change in the quality of life of the women in the CZ.

This concluding section reviews, as a result of the weaker social position of women, the insecurities that they experience which ought to determine the strategic focus of a gender plan for advancement of women in the CZ. Finally a linkage is established with the findings and the gender priorities of the IPRSP.

### 5.1 Vulnerabilities and Insecurity

The aim of development of the coastal zone is the well being of people and their protection from 'insecurities' and 'vulnerabilities' suffered by the poor, especially the women.

The above analysis of women's status in coastal zone leads to defining the vulnerabilities of women in terms of 'insecurities' as it is used in different connotations<sup>7</sup>. This paper describes women's status as a 'well-being' in a complex set of environmental, economic and social conditions that make women particularly vulnerable and insecure. The discussion so far has implicitly addressed the concern of insecurities found in the weaker position of the women in the coastal society.

Women in the coast experience, as the analysis so far shows, insecurities in food, water, income, health, together with lack of security in personal life and property. Equal access to these securities at a basic minimal level of needs is the central goal of development in the CZ. Women's relatively lower access to such essentials lead to her insecurity and to her limited opportunities to equality, social justice and equal right to survival- compared to that of men.

*Food security*<sup>8</sup> depends on the availability of food, access to food and utilization of food (CEGIS, 2003). PDSCL survey shows that within the households, gender discrimination in food allocation and distribution is evident. The major reason behind this is the traditional priority given to men in a poverty situation. Even with the eating habits, discrimination persists. Women eat the same number of meals with less quantity and quality. This difference makes women substantially more vulnerable in terms of nutritional status.

*Water security* is defined in terms of its domestic use: access at all times to sufficient safe water to meet personal needs for an active and healthy life. In addition to the dimensions of food security water quality is also a key dimension (CEGIS, 2003). Availability of safe drinking water and access to common property resources i.e., community ponds and tube well affects men and women differently both in dry and wet season. Therefore, women as main water user and collector within the household has to face series of difficulties in water fetching, fulfilling domestic tasks, bathing and maintaining reproductive hygiene and sanitation and has to adopt alternative measures<sup>9</sup> to cope with the crisis. More often women have to use saline water for domestic tasks and basic health and hygiene practice which affect their health adversely. Water insecurity has aggravated with arsenic contamination of ground water making safe drinking water scarce in the coastal zone. The effect of arsenic on women and children in the coast is known to be greater due to their lower resistance and higher malnutrition. This has profoundly changed the situation of safe water access increasing water insecurity by many folds. Water is a more basic insecurity than food.

*Income security* indicates sufficient income at all times so as to be free from poverty. There are three major dimensions to income security: employment opportunities, access to labor market, use of income (CEGIS, 2003). These dimensions affect women and men differently. Women are more dependent on micro credit and low paid work. Due to women's lack of ability to move easily from one place to another they are unable to provide cash support to their families and supplement their men's income. On the other hand, men are often forced to shift occupations, go for seasonal migration and lose-out on earnings by selling premature fish catches to get loans (*dadon*).

*Health security and personal safety* needs to be seen in the context of poverty, frequency of natural disasters, poor and inadequate health infrastructure, lack of awareness. Women's reproductive health is degrading as a consequence of prevalent food taboo during the pre and post natal period when she needs especial care; of insufficient food allocation, poor hygiene and sanitation, frequent pregnancies and their hardship often leads to illness and higher morbidity. Men as the cash earners

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<sup>7</sup> Several connotations include: vulnerability in the meaning of sensitivity to a certain event, specific type of insecurity, lacking capacity to cope with stress.

<sup>8</sup> Food security defined as access at all time to sufficient, safe and nutritious food, which meet the dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. (World Food Summit, 1996).

<sup>9</sup> Use indigenous rainwater conservation techniques, use pond and canal water for cooking, bathing, washing, animal husbandry and watering the homestead garden.

usually bear the medication cost of the family and also receive preferential treatment in better health care.

*Safety of house and property* relates to loss of assets due to natural disaster, law and order situation, lack of social networks and safety nets. The lack of law and order leads to illegal actions by miscreants and *mastaans* with no redress or accountability leading to loss of resources and assets.

The loss of assets as a consequence of cyclones (e.g. house, poultry, cattle) and their limited resilience to such disasters, affect women profoundly. At the time of a cyclone and afterwards, women face severe hygiene and sanitation difficulties along with the usual lack of food, income and shelter. In case of a cyclone women try to get information from their neighborhood and often, because of their lack of mobility they do not have access to timely information as the men do (who go to *hat* and listen to radio). Women have little preparatory time to get the children, her essentials quickly to a shelter. During the cyclones they go to a cyclone shelter (if available) and only afterwards they try to regain what they can of their assets. Since women move with their children during disaster their agility is affected and at times they perish with their children- their greatest asset (PDO-ICZMP, 2002).

Depending on their resources the impact of cyclones on men vary. As men are usually involved in the public arena and have more financial capital than women they suffer greater capital loss (such as, washing away of the salt field or loss of crop etc.). Women face difficulties in the area of food, housing, water and sanitation more than the men.

Women's advancement in the coast must address these issues and any development strategies for the coast will need to take all these factors into account.

## 5.2 Coastal Priorities, some suggestions and the National Strategy (2003)

The Gender Status Paper is only a preliminary guide to initiate mainstreaming gender in ICZM. This guide shows the areas where women are lagging behind or where they are the most vulnerable. Based on these, it also shows where a development practitioner may need to set higher priorities in order to achieve gender equality and equal opportunity for women in the CZ.

Some of the factors of concern that confirm the relatively higher insecurity of the coastal women compared to other parts of the country, are:

- ◇ Higher female mortality and malnutrition, an imbalanced sex ratio at early age, school-drop out among girls, smaller opportunities in the public domain and more women in unpaid work are some examples of the relative vulnerability of women compared to men in CZ.
- ◇ A vulnerable Fisher Community with female managed households means a large impoverished community.
- ◇ The coastal interior has the highest concentration of female managed households and women and children are the greater victims of natural disaster.
- ◇ Every community and society has its own indigenous coping strategies. While this status paper concentrated on the analysis of comparative vulnerability of the women in the coast, on the one hand, compared to men, and on the other hand, compared to rest of the country, it does not look at the indigenous practices that keep these women going. However, case study on the local level institutional arrangement in ECFC project (PDO-ICZMP, 2003c) throws light on efforts at organizing village level institutions such as the Village Organization (VO) of the fisher women to address the problems of vulnerability and their sustainability. A central thrust of the coastal program will, indeed, have to be the fisher community and their local institutions.

Preparing an inventory of existing good practices will be essential for a future gender strategy that needs to be based on the enhancement of the strength of the coastal women and people. Only this may institutionalize a sustainable process.

The need to base the design on women's and people's existing practices and strength implies the need for a people centered approach to development where the beneficiaries will be stakeholders and equal and active 'partners' (along with the line agencies) in the process. The participatory approach creates space for the 'excluded' and therefore it is the most sensitive approach to women's development and democratic practice. This, however, will have to be a policy decision and it is this decision that will finally determine what form the framework for the Coastal Development Strategy will take.

Finally, the goals and strategic elements of the national strategy (ERD, 2003) (Appendices 1 and 2), DIFD's 'Women and Girls First' (2003) has to be taken advantage of in developing such a strategy for gender equality. While expert's work to strengthen and gender sensitize IPRSP it is gearing to become the central blueprint for development in Bangladesh in the coming years.

The major priority areas of the IPRSP fall into a pattern that comfortably fits the needs of the coastal zone as can be seen below:

<b>Priority areas of action : National Strategy for Economic Growth, Poverty Reduction and Social Development</b>	
◇	Combating continuing negative sex ratios
◇	Eliminating violence against women
◇	Reducing high maternal mortality
◇	Removing restrictions on women's employment and economic opportunities
◇	Ensuring formal equality
◇	Supporting quota and affirmative action at all levels and in all spheres
◇	Creating women-friendly institutional environment
◇	Generating sex-disaggregated statistics.

Source: ERD, 2003

### 5.3 Building alliance- a last word

There are many government and non-government initiatives trying to address the problem of gender and working for the advancement of women in Bangladesh. Although in the preparation of this status paper there is no scope to enter into a long discussion on 'who is doing what in gender' in the CZ from the government departments and the non-government agencies, however, a reference would perhaps be useful to build alliances and networks to facilitate a strong CZ.

#### **There are several major actors in the field of gender development in the CZ:**

Development agencies, such as Ministry of Women & Children's Affairs (MoWCA), BRDB and many NGOs are working particularly in the field of gender development and women's advancement. All major ministries in the country have development projects and programs that create new opportunities for women's advancement and gender equality. One such ministry is the ministry of water resources and one such program opportunity is the ICZMP. For a concerted and coordinated gender program that is supported by the Government, donors and the NGOs, especially the national NGOs efforts must be supportive of one another if a national difference is to be made. For this it is important to know 'Who is doing what and where'. (Preliminary inventory, Appendix 22).

This inventory will be used for gender development practitioners who wish to build alliances and networks for the common objective of a gender balanced coastal zone in Bangladesh. This inventory, does not promote individual agencies and/or projects but simply intends to support to initiate the process, will be upgraded from time to time.

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## APPENDICES



## APPENDIX 1: LINKS BETWEEN COASTAL DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES AND IPRSP GOALS

Coastal development objectives	IPRSP goals
Economic growth	<b>Poverty and Hunger:</b> remove the 'ugly faces' of poverty by eradicating hunger, chronic food insecurity and extreme destitution <b>Poverty:</b> to halve the proportion of the population living below the poverty line <b>Child Nutrition:</b> reduce the proportion of malnourished children and eliminate gender disparity in child malnutrition
Meeting <b>basic needs</b> and creating options for <b>livelihoods opportunities</b> for coastal communities	<b>Poverty and Hunger:</b> remove the 'ugly faces' of poverty by eradicating hunger, chronic food insecurity and extreme destitution <b>Poverty:</b> to halve the proportion of the population living below the poverty line <b>Universal Primary Education:</b> attain universal primary education for all girls and boys of primary school age <b>Child Mortality:</b> to reduce infant and under 5 mortality rates by 65 percent and eliminate gender disparity in child mortality <b>Environmental Sustainability:</b> ensure comprehensive disaster risk management, environmental sustainability and mainstreaming of these concerns in the national development process
Reduction of <b>vulnerabilities</b> and enhancement of coping capacities	<b>Poverty and Hunger:</b> remove the 'ugly faces' of poverty by eradicating hunger, chronic food insecurity and extreme destitution <b>Social Violence:</b> reduce substantially, if not eliminate totally, social violence against the poor and disadvantaged groups, especially violence against women and children <b>Child Mortality:</b> to reduce infant and under 5 mortality rates by 65 percent and eliminate gender disparity in child mortality <b>Environmental Sustainability:</b> ensure comprehensive disaster risk management, environmental sustainability and mainstreaming of these concerns in the national development process
Sustainable management of <b>coastal resources</b>	<b>Child Mortality:</b> to reduce infant and under 5 mortality rates by 65 percent and eliminate gender disparity in child mortality <b>Environmental Sustainability:</b> ensure comprehensive disaster risk management, environmental sustainability and mainstreaming of these concerns in the national development process
<b>Equitable distribution</b> of resources and economic benefits across social strata	<b>Poverty:</b> to halve the proportion of the population living below the poverty line <b>Gender Equality:</b> eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education <b>Child Mortality:</b> to reduce infant and under 5 mortality rates by 65 percent and eliminate gender disparity in child mortality
<b>Empowerment</b> of coastal communities	<b>Universal Primary Education:</b> attain universal primary education for all girls and boys of primary school age <b>Child Mortality:</b> to reduce infant and under 5 mortality rates by 65 percent and eliminate gender disparity in child mortality <b>Child Nutrition:</b> reduce the proportion of malnourished children and eliminate gender disparity in child malnutrition <b>Social Violence:</b> reduce substantially, if not eliminate totally, social violence against the poor and disadvantaged groups, especially violence against women and children
Promotion of <b>gender equality</b> and women's advancement	<b>Gender Equality:</b> eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education <b>Child Mortality:</b> to reduce infant and under 5 mortality rates by 65 percent and eliminate gender disparity in child mortality <b>Child Nutrition:</b> reduce the proportion of malnourished children and eliminate gender disparity in child malnutrition <b>Maternal Mortality:</b> to reduce the maternal mortality rate by 75 percent <b>Reproductive Health:</b> ensure access to reproductive health services for all
Preservation and enhancement of critical <b>ecosystems</b> and ecological processes	<b>Environmental Sustainability:</b> ensure comprehensive disaster risk management, environmental sustainability and mainstreaming of these concerns in the national development process <b>Poverty and Hunger:</b> remove the 'ugly faces' of poverty by eradicating hunger, chronic food insecurity and extreme destitution

Source: PDO-ICZMP, 2003e

## APPENDIX 2: LINKS BETWEEN OBJECTIVES AND IPRSP STRATEGY ELEMENTS

Coastal Development Objectives	IPRSP Strategy Elements
<b>Economic growth</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pro-poor <b>economic growth</b> for increasing income and employment of the poor</li> <li>• <b>Participatory governance</b> and improved non-material dimensions of well-being</li> </ul>
Meeting <b>basic needs</b> and creating options for <b>livelihoods opportunities</b> for coastal communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pro-poor <b>economic growth</b> for increasing income and employment of the poor</li> <li>• <b>Women's advancement</b> and closing the gender gap in development</li> <li>• <b>Participatory governance</b> and improved non-material dimensions of well-being</li> </ul>
Reduction of <b>vulnerabilities</b> and enhancement of coping capacities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Human development</b> of the poor for raising their capability</li> <li>• <b>Women's advancement</b> and closing the gender gap in development</li> <li>• Social protection to the poor against anticipated and unanticipated <b>shocks and vulnerabilities</b></li> <li>• <b>Participatory governance</b> and improved non-material dimensions of well-being</li> </ul>
Sustainable management of <b>coastal resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Human development</b> of the poor for raising their capability</li> <li>• Social protection to the poor against anticipated and unanticipated <b>shocks and vulnerabilities</b></li> <li>• <b>Participatory governance</b> and improved non-material dimensions of well-being</li> </ul>
<b>Equitable distribution</b> of resources and economic benefits across social strata	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pro-poor <b>economic growth</b> for increasing income and employment of the poor</li> <li>• <b>Human development</b> of the poor for raising their capability</li> <li>• <b>Women's advancement</b> and closing the gender gap in development</li> <li>• Social protection to the poor against anticipated and unanticipated <b>shocks and vulnerabilities</b></li> </ul>
<b>Empowerment</b> of coastal communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Human development</b> of the poor for raising their capability</li> <li>• <b>Participatory governance</b> and improved non-material dimensions of well-being</li> </ul>
Promotion of <b>gender equality</b> and women's advancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Women's advancement</b> and closing the gender gap in development</li> </ul>
Preservation and enhancement of critical <b>ecosystems</b> and ecological processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social protection to the poor against anticipated and unanticipated <b>shocks and vulnerabilities</b></li> <li>• <b>Participatory governance</b> and improved non-material dimensions of well-being</li> </ul>

Source: PDO-ICZMP, 2003e

## APPENDIX 3: DEMOGRAPHY

District	House Holds (HH)	Population			Sex ratio	Depen- dency ratio	HH size	Female per HH	Mortality rate		TFR
		Both sex	Male	Female					IMR*	<5 MR	
Bagerhat	321640	1516820	786260	730560	107.6	0.80	4.7	2.27	56	87	2.7
Barguna	180060	845060	435220	409840	106.2	0.80	4.7	2.28	55	94	2.9
Barisal	475680	2348440	1196220	1152220	103.8	0.95	4.9	2.42	58	87	3.0
Bhola	328540	1703200	884820	818380	108.1	1.08	5.2	2.49	60	90	2.6
Chandpur	422740	2241020	1112180	1128840	98.5	1.07	5.3	2.67	54	99	3.2
Chittagong	1228880	6543860	3440640	3103220	110.9	0.78	5.3	2.53	60	103	3.3
Cox's Bazar	294460	1759560	915520	844040	108.5	1.14	6.0	2.87	67	80	2.9
Feni	213040	1205980	593240	612740	96.8	0.99	5.7	2.88	68	98	3.3
Gopalganj	217440	1151800	579460	572340	101.2	0.96	5.3	2.63	60	96	2.7
Jessore	521360	2469680	1282480	1187200	108	0.73	4.7	2.28	55	84	2.7
Jhalakati	145700	692680	344200	348480	98.8	0.92	4.8	2.39	52	87	2.9
Khulna	494800	2357940	1234320	1123620	109.9	0.69	4.8	2.27	59	90	2.8
Lakshmipur	287880	1486540	745220	741320	100.5	1.08	5.2	2.58	60	95	3.1
Narail	140020	694900	350700	344200	101.9	0.88	5.0	2.46	52	94	2.7
Noakhali	460240	2570640	1267060	1303580	97.2	1.12	5.6	2.83	51	89	3.1
Patuakhali	280980	1464800	742200	722600	102.7	0.89	5.2	2.57	56	97	3.0
Pirojpur	233160	1099780	553620	546160	101.4	0.87	4.7	2.34	63	94	3.0
Satkhira	390080	1845120	936200	908920	103	0.80	4.7	2.33	57	87	3.0
Shariatpur	213240	1080680	543360	537320	101.1	1.13	5.1	2.52	58	96	3.4
<b>Total CZ</b>	<b>6849940</b>	<b>35078500</b>	<b>17942920</b>	<b>17135580</b>	<b>104.7</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>2.50</b>	<b>51-68</b>		<b>3.1</b>
<b>Non-CZ</b>	<b>18457660</b>	<b>88772620</b>	<b>45951820</b>	<b>42820800</b>	<b>107.3</b>	<b>0.81</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>2.32</b>			
<b>BD</b>	<b>25307600</b>	<b>123851120</b>	<b>63894740</b>	<b>59956380</b>	<b>106.6</b>	<b>0.83</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>2.37</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>3.0</b>

Source: BBS, 2003b and \*IMR, U5MR, TFR are from BBS &amp; UNICEF (2001)

## APPENDIX 4: SEX RATIO BY AGE GROUP

Districts	Population by 0-14 years			Population by 15-49 years		
	Male	Female	Sex ratio	Male	Female	Sex ratio
Bagerhat	294297	264024	111	377405	376823	100
Barguna	164470	142911	115	202987	216068	94
Barisal	511145	461118	111	517485	556983	93
Bhola	423032	369253	115	357113	376782	95
Chandpur	516496	464856	111	436419	526943	83
Chittagong	1327399	1184809	112	1736147	1612123	108
Cox's Bazar	456844	407840	112	373807	376357	99
Feni	266305	246873	108	251949	294789	85
Gopalganj	252007	235060	107	250211	272548	92
Jessore	468105	420031	111	662529	637526	104
Jhalkati	142946	133677	107	147524	171557	86
Khulna	428679	393604	109	650980	612822	106
Lakshmipur	353830	316321	112	297492	345974	86
Narail	141613	131519	108	157885	169381	93
Noakhali	618072	563147	110	488705	598865	82
Patuakhali	304599	284560	107	335400	357615	94
Pirojpur	219676	204537	107	250402	271988	92
Satkhira	362871	338936	107	456772	465731	98
Shariatpur	255271	234003	109	212617	240666	88
<b>CZ</b>	<b>7507659</b>	<b>6797081</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>8163829</b>	<b>8481540</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>Non-CZ</b>	<b>18101353</b>	<b>16316104</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>22435361</b>	<b>22108205</b>	<b>101</b>
<b>BD</b>	<b>25609012</b>	<b>23113184</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>30599191</b>	<b>30589745</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: BBS, 2003b

## APPENDIX 5: STATISTICS ON FISHERIES HOUSEHOLD

District	Total farm households (000)	Fish catching households (000)				% of fish catching households
		Small	Medium	Large	Total	
Bagerhat	193	14	8	1	23	12
Barguna	117	27	14	3	44	38
Barisal	289	15	4	0	19	7
Bhola	177	18	6	1	25	14
Chandpur	254	17	2	0	19	7
Chittagong	298	16	4	0	20	7
Cox's Bazar	136	20	5	0	25	18
Feni	126	20	4	0	24	19
Gopalganj	138	1	1	0	2	1
Jessore	278	18	9	1	28	10
Jhalakati	84	16	6	0	22	26
Khulna	144	23	15	4	42	29
Lakshmipur	182	22	5	1	28	15
Narail	79	1	2	0	3	4
Noakhali	281	30	12	4	46	16
Patuakhali	185	16	12	4	32	17
Pirojpur	175	20	7	1	28	16
Satkhira	202	28	13	3	44	22
Shariatpur	146	9	1	0	10	7
<b>Total CZ</b>	<b>3484</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>CZ %</b>		<b>68</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100</b>	
<b>Non-CZ</b>	<b>8313</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Non-CZ %</b>		<b>61</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100</b>	
<b>Bangladesh</b>	<b>11797</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Bangladesh %</b>		<b>65</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100</b>	

Source: BBS, 1999

## APPENDIX 6: MARITAL STATUS OF COASTAL WOMEN

Districts	Population 10 <sup>+</sup> & Over	Percentage distribution of the marital status of women			
		Never Married	Married	Widow/ widower	Unmarried/ separated
Bagerhat	1149160	12.62	31.53	3.73	0.43
Barguna	644920	12.62	32.74	3.35	0.23
Barisal	1706760	15.63	30.42	3.49	0.21
Bhola	1134400	14.10	32.18	2.27	0.15
Chandpur	1584620	16.66	31.53	3.31	0.22
Chittagong	4932600	17.38	26.56	3.25	0.29
Cox's Bazar	1153560	17.67	28.13	2.26	0.41
Feni	871620	17.24	30.74	3.53	0.18
Gopalganj	819580	15.17	3.04	4.29	0.22
Jessore	1900540	12.15	32.06	3.30	0.56
Jhalkati	514280	15.10	31.44	4.26	0.20
Khulna	1821720	13.20	30.55	3.17	0.51
Lakshmipur	1022480	15.46	32.52	2.90	0.19
Narail	514100	13.79	30.92	4.59	0.44
Noakhali	1767480	17.09	31.71	3.24	0.16
Patuakhali	1065360	13.86	32.06	3.55	0.23
Pirojpur	816340	14.12	31.58	4.21	0.28
Satkhira	1378140	12.20	3.29	3.66	0.69
Shariatpur	742780	15.46	31.15	3.57	0.32
<b>CZ</b>	<b>25540440</b>	<b>15.19</b>	<b>27.96</b>	<b>3.35</b>	<b>0.32</b>
<b>Non-CZ</b>	<b>65446500</b>	<b>13.49</b>	<b>31.88</b>	<b>3.63</b>	<b>0.39</b>
<b>BD</b>	<b>90986940</b>	<b>13.96</b>	<b>30.78</b>	<b>3.55</b>	<b>0.37</b>

Source: BBS, 2003b



## APPENDIX 7: MARRIAGE AND BIRTH REGISTRATION

Districts	Marriage Registration Registered	Birth registration and record Both sex: Children under 5 yrs	
		Registered by: Union/ Pauroshava/ City Corporation	Recorded by: Health centre/ Health worker/ NGO worker
Bagerhat	81.0	1.8	78.7
Barguna	83.7	2.1	71.8
Barisal	86.7	1.0	64.5
Bhola	86.7	3.1	30.5
Chandpur	92.9	4.2	83.0
Chittagong	82.5	0.5	88.8
Cox's Bazar	87.6	0.6	69.4
Feni	92.0	0.9	83.1
Gopalganj	82.8	0.0	87.1
Jessore	85.6	1.6	91.1
Jhalakhati	88.7	0.4	81.0
Khulna	70.5	0.5	35.7
Lakshmipur	89.1	6.0	55.8
Narail	74.3	2.2	90.0
Noakhali	87.8	0.3	71.5
Patuakhali	70.6	1.4	64.6
Pirojpur	80.6	4.4	64.7
Satkhira	56.8	0.9	87.3
Shariatpur	85.8	0.3	58.4
<b>Bangladesh</b>	<b>85.6</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>71.4</b>

Source: BBS &amp; UNICEF, 2001

## APPENDIX 8: AGE-SPECIFIC DEATH RATES BY SEX AND AREA

Age groups in years	Deaths per 1000 population					
	National		Urban		Rural	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
<1	72.8	68.8	82.3	78.9	59.6	55.0
1-4	10.5	9.8	11.9	11.9	8.6	7.0
5-9	3.7	2.4	2.8	2.4	5.0	2.4
10-14	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.0
15-19	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.1	1.0	1.4
20-24	1.7	2.4	2.2	2.8	1.1	1.8
25-29	2.1	3.1	2.4	3.3	1.6	2.7
30-34	2.6	3.5	3.2	4.0	1.9	2.8
35-39	3.3	4.3	4.0	4.1	2.4	4.4
40-44	4.4	7.3	5.3	7.9	3.1	6.3
45-49	6.6	9.2	7.7	9.8	5.0	8.4
50-54	10.8	10.6	12.5	10.5	8.5	10.8
55-59	17.0	16.4	17.4	16.0	16.4	16.9
60-64	30.2	26.4	26.6	23.3	28.4	28.0
65-69	39.9	38.5	35.3	35.3	40.7	35.8
70-74	56.7	47.7	41.2	44.1	56.8	57.2
75-79	64.0	74.1	51.8	53.4	76.7	80.5
80-84	165.3	185.9	153.9	148.2	173.1	184.9
85+	361.8	392	387.3	354.9	342.5	364.4

Source: BBS, 1999

## APPENDIX 9: STATUS OF REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICE

(All Figures in Percentage)

District	Last delivery assisted by			Place of delivery			Tetanus Toxoid during ARI	
	Trained person		Untrained person	Health centre			Last Pregnancy	
	D/N/MW / FWV	Trained TBA	Neighbor/ Relative/Other	Govt health	Pri/NGO health	Home delivery	One or more	Aware
Bagerhat	5.5	19.5	75.0	2	1	97	73	82
Barguna	4.0	14.8	81.2	2	0	98	85.2	72.4
Barisal	5.2	18.9	75.9	3.3	0.9	95.8	82.1	76.1
Bhola	2.9	4.0	93.1	1.1	0	98.9	66.4	80.5
Chandpur	9.2	5.1	85.7	2.6	1.5	95.9	90.8	81.7
Chittagong	10.5	22.3	67.2	5	1.7	93.3	87	74
Cox's Bazar	5.5	9.6	85.0	2	1.7	96.2	75.1	51.6
Feni	17.3	16.8	65.9	4.3	1.4	94.2	90.9	68.5
Gopalganj	4.4	6.6	89.0	1.8	0.9	97.4	76.8	71.1
Jessore	7.1	23.6	69.2	1.6	2.7	95.6	86.8	91.7
Jhalakhati	12.6	6.0	81.4	2.2	1.1	96.7	85.8	42.4
Khulna	17	17.6	65.3	5.7	2.8	91.5	81.8	68.5
Lakshmipur	5.3	1.2	93.4	0.4	1.6	98	67.2	68.3
Narail	4.8	10.1	85.1	2.1	0.5	97.4	77.1	91.3
Noakhali	4.1	8.5	87.4	2.2	0	97.8	70	80
Patuakhali	7.1	17.2	75.8	2.5	1	96.5	68.2	59.9
Pirojpur	8.1	6.4	85.5	4.1	1.2	94.8	78.5	56
Satkhira	10.3	13.5	76.3	3.2	2.6	94.2	92.3	84.5
Shariatpur	6.9	9.9	83.3	2.6	0	97.4	73.8	69.1
<b>Bangladesh</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>76.3</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>92.2</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>76.1</b>

Source: BBS &amp; UNICEF, 2001.

## APPENDIX 10: LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH BY SEX

(in years)

Year	National	
	Male	Female
1991	56.5	55.7
1995	58.4	58.1
1997	60.3	59.7
1998	60.7	60.5
1999	67.8	67.2
2000	68.6	67.8
2001	68.6	68.0
2000 (HDS)	68.4	68.8

Source: BBS, 2003.

## APPENDIX 11: EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF WOMEN IN FARMING

Districts	Total	% of female		
		Self employment	Unpaid farm helper	Labor in other holding
Bagerhat	466272	6.14	18.45	2.55
Barguna	268995	6.68	18.94	2.43
Barisal	2550624	9.58	18.81	2.65
Bhola	486330	6.66	14.11	2.65
Chandpur	782713	16.36	15.77	2.02
Chittagong	6746374	15.41	16.94	2.13
Cox's Bazar	435035	9.21	18.74	2.57
Feni	332230	9.19	22.02	1.57
Gopalganj	371732	10.74	17.42	2.48
Jessore	870297	5.24	24.69	2.26
Jhalakhati	187730	14.69	17.44	2.45
Khulna	4432743	6.87	19.67	2.44
Lakshmipur	482894	15.16	13.81	2.28
Narail	243929	7.07	27.70	1.97
Noakhali	717541	8.15	15.69	1.80
Patuakhali	453128	7.59	21.28	2.81
Pirojpur	416214	9.65	24.89	2.01
Satkhira	684838	13.39	17.87	3.09
Shariatpur	379720	7.71	22.41	2.09
<b>CZ</b>	<b>21309339</b>	<b>10.90</b>	<b>18.51</b>	<b>2.32</b>
<b>Bangladesh</b>	<b>37574279</b>	<b>12.39</b>	<b>18.24</b>	<b>2.97</b>

Source: BBS, 1999

## APPENDIX 12: ACTIVE LABOR FORCE (15 YEARS AND OLDER)

District	1995-96		1999-2000					
	Total	% Female	Total		Urban		Rural	
			Total	% Female	Total	% Female	Total	% Female
Bagerhat	777	41	819	39	43	14	776	40
Barguna	1,351	40	604	37	53	25	551	38
Barisal	1,410	37	1452	43	207	28	1245	46
Bhola	942	38	761	29	47	34	715	29
Chandpur	981	44	1015	38	55	36	960	38
Chittagong	2,352	32	3,037	32	1,820	30	1,217	35
Cox's Bazar	660	41	870	43	0	-	870	43
Feni	554	40	482	23	70	33	412	22
Gopalganj	491	34	580	42	0	-	580	42
Jessore	1,196	38	1,155	41	41	12	1,115	43
Jhalakati	597	44	618	43	103	29	514	45
Khulna	1,279	32	1,443	29	1,096	28	347	31
Lakshmipur	499	39	492	32	64	45	429	31
Narail	270	36	209	39	34	12	176	44
Noakhali	648	38	752	44	127	38	625	45
Patuakhali	762	42	937	36	35	20	902	37
Pirojpur	721	40	990	41	43	23	947	41
Satkhira	693	35	659	45	42	14	617	47
Shariatpur	525	41	543	45	0	-	543	45
<b>Coastal zone</b>	<b>16,708</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>17,418</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>3,880</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>13,541</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Rest of Bangladesh</b>	<b>33,629</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>36,096</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>6,110</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29,984</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Bangladesh</b>	<b>50,337</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>53,514</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>9,990</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>43,525</b>	<b>40</b>

Source: BBS, 2002

## APPENDIX 13: ASSET DISTRIBUTION

	Women	Men	Both
<b>Natural</b>		Tree Wetland Honey Crab Watercourse	Pond Land Homestead Homestead garden
<b>Physical</b>	Furniture Household utilities Sewing machine Bed Handloom Embroidery machine	Trawler Hook Handloom Shop Electricity Road Embankment	Boat Net Poultry Cattle House Rickshaw van Jewelry Tube-well, latrine
<b>Human</b>		Wife Training	Son Daughter Children Education Health Other family members
<b>Social</b>	Relief	Membership in local functional organization Membership in UP Trade Union Political party <i>Salish</i> Relation with neighbors Leadership	Membership in CBO Marriage
<b>Financial</b>	Compensation Production tool Jewelry	Insurance Cattle <i>Gher</i>	Savings Credit Job Income/profit from activities

Source: PDO-ICZMP, 2002

## APPENDIX 14: HEALTH FACILITIES

District	Government hospitals	Beds in govt. hospitals	Private hospitals	Upazila health complexes	Rural dispensaries
Bagerhat	1	100	3	8	8
Barguna	1	100	1	5	8
Barisal	3	770	2	10	32
Bhola	1	50	0	7	7
Chandpur	1	50	0	6	20
Chittagong	4	1,216	20	16	72
Cox's Bazar	1	50	4	6	13
Feni	2	70	0	4	1
Gopalganj	1	50	1	5	22
Jessore	2	120	1	7	22
Jhalokati	1	50	0	4	5
Khulna	4	520	9	10	14
Lakshmipur	1	50	2	3	15
Narail	1	50	0	2	7
Noakhali	1	150	1	6	24
Patuakhali	1	150	0	5	12
Pirojpur	1	50	1	5	6
Satkhira	1	50	0	6	9
Shariatpur	1	50	0	5	18
<b>Coastal zone</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>3,696</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>324</b>
<b>Rest of BD</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>11,021</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>1,029</b>

Source: BBS, 2001



## APPENDIX 15: NUMBER OF HOSPITAL BEDS AND POPULATION-BED RATIO

District	Population (1996)	Government Hospital				NGO	Total Bed (Govt.+ NGO)	Population bed ratio (Govt.)	Population bed ratio (Govt. + NGO)
		District Hospital	Other Hospital	Upazila Health Complex	Total Bed				
Bagerhat	1,502,533	100		248	348	125	473	4,318	3,177
Barguna	818,247	100		155	255	10	265	3,209	3,088
Barisal	2,312,665	100	670	310	1,080	40	1,120	2,141	2,065
Bhola	1,545,644	50		217	267		267	5,789	5,789
Chandpur	2,163,103	50		186	236		236	9,166	9,166
Chittagong	5,757,252	100	1,116	496	1,712	413	2,125	3,363	2,709
Cox's Bazar	1,515,350	50		186	236	207	443	6,421	3,421
Feni	1,110,028	50	20	124	194		194	5,722	5,722
Gopalganj	1,074,074	50		155	205	30	235	5,239	4,571
Jessore	2,120,279	100	20	217	337	50	387	6,292	5,479
Jhalakati	707,354	50		155	205		205	3,451	3,451
Khulna	2,143,656	150	370	310	830	176	1,006	2,583	2,131
Lakshmipur	1,404,607	50		93	143	30	173	9,822	8,119
Narail	669,003	50		62	112		112	5,973	5,973
Noakhali	2,360,293	150		186	336	10	346	7,025	6,822
Patuakhali	1,335,945	150		155	305		305	4,380	4,380
Pirojpur	1,117,177	50		155	205	10	215	5,450	5,196
Satkhira	1,673,194	50		186	236		236	7,090	7,090
Shariatpur	999,310	50		155	205		205	4,875	4,875
<b>Total CZ</b>	<b>32,329,705</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>2,196</b>	<b>3,751</b>	<b>7,447</b>	<b>1,101</b>	<b>8,548</b>	<b>4,341</b>	<b>3,782</b>
<b>Non-CZ</b>	<b>73,998,570</b>	<b>3,050</b>	<b>7,971</b>	<b>9,176</b>	<b>20,197</b>	<b>6,924</b>	<b>27,121</b>	<b>3,664</b>	<b>2,728</b>
<b>Bangladesh</b>	<b>106,328,275</b>	<b>4,550</b>	<b>10,167</b>	<b>12,927</b>	<b>27,644</b>	<b>8,025</b>	<b>35,669</b>	<b>3,846</b>	<b>2,981</b>

Source: BBS, 2002

## APPENDIX 16: NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF &gt;5 CHILDREN

District	% of severe malnutrition of children aged 12-59 months (MUAC<12.5cm)		
	Boys	Girls	Total
Bagerhat	3	5	4
Barguna	2	5	4
Barisal	6	9	8
Bhola	11	17	14
Chandpur	1	4	3
Chittagong	4	5	5
Cox's Bazar	4	5	4
Feni	6	6	6
Gopalganj	7	12	10
Jessore	5	9	7
Jhalakati	5	11	8
Khulna	3	2	3
Lakshmipur	7	7	7
Narail	5	9	7
Noakhali	4	14	9
Patuakhali	4	10	7
Pirojpur	2	8	5
Satkhira	2	2	2
Shariatpur	4	13	8
<b>CZ</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Non-CZ<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Bangladesh</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>

<sup>1</sup>Estimates are based on population below 5 years, 1991

Source: BBS & UNICEF, 2001

### APPENDIX 17: NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES OF HOUSEHOLD SOURCES OF WATER AND TYPES OF LATRINES

District	Total hh	Sources of drinking water in % of hh				Toilet facility in % of hh		
		Tap	TW*	DTW*	Pond/ other	Sanitary	Other	None
Bagerhat	321,640	4.78	43.92	13.58	37.72	33.24	62.54	4.22
Barguna	180,060	5.23	43.77	23.15	27.85	36.97	56.10	6.93
Barisal	475,680	3.41	41.45	46.46	8.68	58.66	34.09	7.25
Bhola	328,540	0.66	46.28	43.97	9.09	27.39	62.74	9.87
Chandpur	422,740	4.01	78.50	4.82	12.67	53.87	36.35	9.78
Chittagong	1,228,880	13.63	73.99	5.37	7.01	56.62	35.35	8.03
Cox's Bazar	294,460	1.22	85.68	3.79	9.31	29.18	53.86	16.97
Feni	213,040	0.91	87.62	2.05	9.41	63.94	27.57	8.48
Gopalganj	217,440	2.60	81.01	9.77	6.62	44.22	46.69	9.08
Jessore	521,360	0.85	93.83	0.61	4.72	36.78	41.27	21.95
Jhalkati	145,700	1.65	39.17	42.56	16.61	59.02	36.79	4.18
Khulna	494,800	2.06	57.65	27.28	13.01	59.24	34.10	6.66
Lakshmipur	287,880	1.55	77.50	8.22	12.73	45.48	41.04	13.48
Narail	140,020	0.43	95.31	1.13	3.13	40.73	45.56	13.71
Noakhali	460,240	0.10	72.03	11.22	15.78	43.47	42.63	13.90
Patuakhali	280,980	0.26	49.76	41.80	8.18	23.19	69.86	6.94
Pirojpur	233,160	1.04	55.52	27.29	16.15	47.59	46.95	5.46
Satkhira	390,080	2.78	76.81	4.22	16.20	35.65	45.26	19.09
Shariatpur	213,240	0.31	82.78	8.91	8.00	36.36	55.47	8.12
<b>CZ</b>	<b>6,849,940</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>68.41</b>	<b>15.57</b>	<b>11.96</b>	<b>45.60</b>	<b>43.84</b>	<b>10.56</b>
<b>Non-CZ</b>	<b>18,457,660</b>	<b>6.68</b>	<b>83.97</b>	<b>0.95</b>	<b>8.42</b>	<b>33.65</b>	<b>40.68</b>	<b>25.67</b>
<b>BD</b>	<b>25,307,600</b>	<b>5.96</b>	<b>79.77</b>	<b>4.90</b>	<b>9.38</b>	<b>36.87</b>	<b>41.53</b>	<b>21.59</b>

Source: BBS, 2003.

TW: Tube well; DTW: Deep Tube well

## APPENDIX 18: RURAL WATER SUPPLY

District	Population (2001)	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Number of tube wells (2002)		Average number of persons per running tube-well	Choked tube wells as % of total tube wells	Number of running tube wells per km <sup>2</sup>
			Running	Choked			
Bagerhat	1,515,815	1,832	16,624	582	91	3.38	9
Barguna	837,955	2,791	11,492	358	73	3.02	4
Barisal	2,330,960	3,403	27,069	1,124	86	3.99	8
Bhola	1,676,600	758	9,832	431	171	4.20	13
Chandpur	2,210,162	3,205	19,659	553	112	2.74	6
Chittagong	6,545,078	1,308	42,306	4,819	155	10.23	32
Cox's Bazar	1,757,321	1,704	14,711	701	119	4.55	9
Feni	1,196,219	5,283	13,808	1,411	87	9.27	3
Gopalganj	1,132,046	2,492	14,121	536	80	3.66	6
Jessore	2,440,693	928	21,427	439	114	2.01	23
Jhalakati	696,055	1,458	9,711	1,040	72	9.67	7
Khulna	2,334,285	3,601	15,807	779	148	4.70	4
Lakshmipur	1,479,371	1,490	13,307	364	111	2.66	9
Narail	689,021	1,181	7,442	163	93	2.14	6
Noakhali	2,533,394	3,959	25,840	815	98	3.06	7
Patuakhali	1,444,340	2,567	11,007	419	131	3.67	4
Pirojpur	1,126,525	4,395	13,466	917	84	6.38	3
Satkhira	1,843,194	990	16,428	933	112	5.37	17
Shariatpur	1,057,181	3,858	12,629	461	84	3.52	3
<b>Total CZ</b>	<b>34,846,215</b>	<b>47,203</b>	<b>316,686</b>	<b>16,845</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>5.05</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Non-CZ</b>	<b>88,305,031</b>	<b>100,367</b>	<b>759,711</b>	<b>30,080</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>3.81</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Bangladesh</b>	<b>123,151,246</b>	<b>147,570</b>	<b>1,076,397</b>	<b>46,925</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>4.18</b>	<b>7</b>

Source: DPHE, 2003 (unpublished data).

## APPENDIX 19: LITERACY RATES

Districts	Literacy rate 7+ years			Literacy rate 15 + years		
	Both sex	Male	Female	Both sex	Male	Female
Bagerhat	57.89	59.89	55.74	60.88	64.46	57.11
Barguna	53.58	55.96	51.10	56.24	60.14	52.27
Barisal	56.80	58.89	54.65	60.48	64.31	56.68
Bhola	36.59	38.78	34.25	39.00	43.20	34.67
Chandpur	49.61	51.59	47.72	53.55	57.95	49.60
Chittagong	54.93	59.43	49.94	70.95	65.90	52.33
Cox's Bazar	28.90	32.47	25.07	31.12	37.26	24.66
Feni	53.35	56.56	50.31	57.67	63.65	52.33
Gopalganj	50.52	54.38	46.66	54.82	60.90	48.92
Jessore	51.20	56.18	45.83	52.17	59.39	44.52
Jhalakhati	65.85	66.91	64.81	69.82	72.61	67.21
Khulna	57.34	63.03	51.05	60.93	68.46	52.62
Lakshmipur	42.96	44.60	41.36	47.36	51.04	43.96
Narail	47.68	50.81	44.49	51.62	57.06	46.28
Noakhali	50.16	52.76	47.72	54.38	59.64	49.78
Patuakhali	51.57	55.31	47.75	54.25	59.94	48.57
Pirojpur	63.30	64.46	62.14	67.55	83.46	64.65
Satkhira	44.95	51.22	38.51	47.48	56.45	38.45
Shariatpur	38.19	41.49	34.94	41.09	46.58	35.87
<b>CZ</b>	<b>50.79</b>	<b>54.34</b>	<b>47.12</b>	<b>56.70</b>	<b>60.59</b>	<b>48.71</b>
<b>Non-coast</b>	<b>43.18</b>	<b>47.71</b>	<b>38.33</b>	<b>43.96</b>	<b>51.39</b>	<b>37.75</b>
<b>BD</b>	<b>45.32</b>	<b>49.56</b>	<b>40.83</b>	<b>47.49</b>	<b>53.90</b>	<b>40.82</b>

Source: BBS, 2003b.

## APPENDIX 20: STATISTICS OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS

District	Number of students				Children 6-10 years		Enrolment rate		No. of schools per 10,000 population	
	Government schools		All schools		Total	Girls	Total	Girls	Govt.	Total
	Total	Girls	Total	Girls						
Bagerhat	85,895	43,407	179,115	88,974	183,194	90,367	98	98	4.0	8.9
Barguna	56,905	28,536	114,471	57,582	107,164	52,589	107	109	4.5	11.7
Barisal	220,436	114,050	344,845	173,917	358,516	177,576	96	98	4.1	7.8
Bhola	126,710	65,349	294,328	145,827	308,163	148,198	96	98	2.5	7.7
Chandpur	287,534	147,386	383,172	194,650	383,548	190,452	100	102	3.6	6.0
Chittagong	558,086	280,618	784,494	397,030	836,007	408,203	94	97	2.5	4.2
Cox's Bazar	137,350	77,494	240,702	128,377	304,072	148,611	79	86	2.1	5.3
Feni	131,906	68,891	189,989	93,932	179,723	87,597	106	107	3.4	6.0
Gopalganj	90,978	45,352	134,012	67,154	171,253	83,416	78	81	4.6	7.8
Jessore	165,613	82,302	313,847	154,500	319,867	155,228	98	100	2.7	6.7
Jhalakati	60,815	31,137	94,130	47,849	94,066	46,716	100	102	5.2	9.2
Khulna	199,999	104,629	371,078	185,777	385,525	189,208	96	98	3.8	8.5
Lakshimpur	164,069	84,155	217,771	109,441	234,686	103,418	93	106	3.5	4.7
Narail	85,306	27,192	125,322	47,162	93,409	45,725	134	103	4.2	7.9
Noakhali	276,811	143,613	430,085	217,656	445,337	217,160	97	100	3.1	5.7
Patuakhali	105,791	52,980	213,494	106,033	215,096	107,521	99	99	4.0	11.0
Pirojpur	87,148	44,369	149,738	74,215	153,813	75,470	97	98	5.4	10.9
Satkhira	142,051	71,438	247,418	124,046	268,255	130,709	92	95	3.4	7.1
Shariatpur	110,142	56,775	164,029	83,011	197,412	96,302	83	86	3.8	7.3
<b>Total CZ</b>	<b>3,093,545</b>	<b>1,569,673</b>	<b>4,992,040</b>	<b>2,497,133</b>	<b>5,239,106</b>	<b>2,554,466</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>6.9</b>
<b>Non-CZ</b>	<b>7,737,197</b>	<b>3,794,170</b>	<b>12,667,180</b>	<b>6,172,292</b>	<b>12,875,092</b>	<b>6,323,309</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>6.1</b>
<b>Bangladesh</b>	<b>10,830,742</b>	<b>5,363,843</b>	<b>17,659,220</b>	<b>8,669,425</b>	<b>18,114,198</b>	<b>8,877,775</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>6.3</b>

Source: MIS, Directorate of Primary Education, 2003.

**APPENDIX 21: RANKING OF DISTRICTS ACCORDING TO GENDER DISPARITY BY USING PCA  
(Based on Total Population by Sex)**

Districts	Male		Female		Difference
	Score	Ranking	Score	Ranking	
Bagerhat	0.24	19	0.41	19	0
Barguna	0.37	15	0.67	15	0
Barisal	1.52	6	1.72	6	0
Bhola	-0.47	34	-0.23	31	3
Chandpur	0.45	13	1.05	8	5
Chittagong	5.06	2	4.49	2	0
Cox's Bazar	-0.90	49	-0.82	43	6
Feni	-0.28	29	-0.44	34	5
Gopalganj	-0.48	35	-0.76	42	7
Jessore	0.84	9	0.83	11	2
Jhalkhati	-0.16	26	-0.02	25	1
Jheneidah	-0.76	43	-0.90	46	3
Khulna	1.60	5	0.97	9	4
Lakshmipur	-0.67	41	-0.53	36	5
Narail	-1.15	53	-1.43	56	3
Noakhali	0.25	18	0.40	20	2
Patuakhali	-0.22	27	-0.05	26	1
Pirojpur	0.13	21	0.27	22	1
Satkhira	-0.14	25	-0.53	37	12
Shariatpur	-1.28	57	-1.18	49	8

Source: CPD-UNFPA, 2002

## APPENDIX 22: INVENTORY OF SOME SELECTED PRO-GENDER PROJECTS (FACT SHEETS)

## Policy Leadership and Advocacy for Gender Equality Project\_MoWCA

<b>Title</b> Policy Leadership and Advocacy for Gender Equality (PLAGE)		<b>Status</b> Phased out
<b>Geographical Coverage</b> Not applicable		
<b>Implementing Agency</b> Ministry of Women's and Children's Affairs		
<b>Fund Source</b> GoB and CIDA	<b>Funds Allocated</b> BDT 160 million	
<b>Start Date</b> 1998	<b>Completion Date</b> 2001, now Policy Leadership and Advocacy Unit (PLAU) has become a permanent part of MoWCA	
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b> Project Director, PLAGE project (8 <sup>th</sup> floor) DWA, 37/3, Eskaton Garden, Dhaka.		
<b>Objective</b> To mainstream gender equality considerations in all policies and programs of the Government of Bangladesh capacity of MoWCA so that it may take a leadership role in advocating gender equality within and all sectors of civil society with the following purposes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to strengthen the and outside the government;</li> <li>• to enhance capacity of MoWCA to develop policies and initiate programs that respond to the needs of women thereby reducing gender disparities.</li> </ul>		
<b>Target group</b> All policies and programs of GoB and the civil society (belongs to all sectors).		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b> Not applicable		
<b>Population Coverage</b> Not applicable, because the PLAGE project provides an opportunity for being used as a forum for constant dialogue and consultation between Government and members of the civil society such as NGOs, women organizations, human rights organizations, academia, professional groups on the critical issue of Gender Equality, which is prerequisite for sustainable development.		
<b>Activities</b> To strengthen the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• strengthening its capacity with appropriate staffing, training and technology transfer;</li> <li>• revision of its allocation of business;</li> <li>• support to activate the National Council on Women's Development (NCWD);</li> <li>• follow-up to the National Action Plan(NAP), the Institutional review of WID Capability (IR-WID) and the National Policy for advancement of Women.</li> </ul> Establish linkages with the GoB machineries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• strengthening the role of the WID focal points ;</li> <li>• support to planning commission;</li> <li>• reviewing collaborative roles of MWCA and Planning Commission;</li> <li>• capacity building training of MoWCA, WID focal points and Planning Commission;</li> <li>• support to national training institutes to ensure that their training curriculum includes gender concerns;</li> <li>• support to LGD specifically for elected women at the local level;</li> <li>• strengthen consultation between line ministries and MoWCA.</li> </ul> Establish linkage to the civil society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• strengthen capacities of Civil Society Groups and organizations;</li> <li>• establishment of a consultative mechanism between GoB and Civil Society on the issue of gender equality.</li> </ul>		

Source: PLAGE project, DWA



## Capacity Building for Gender Mainstreaming Project\_MoWCA

<b>Title</b> <b>Capacity Building for Gender Mainstreaming Project</b> (one of the major initiatives of the government under the umbrella of MoWCA for strengthening gender training in the government training institutes)		<b>Status</b> Inception phase (Project remained abandoned for two and half years)
<b>Geographical Coverage</b> Overall Bangladesh		
<b>Implementing Agency</b> MoWCA (main partners of the project are the MoE, MoP, Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre- BPATC, Bangladesh Civil Service Administration Academy- BCSAA and the Academy for Planning and Development- APD.)		
<b>Fund Source</b> United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	<b>Funds Allocated</b> Not applicable	
<b>Start Date</b> 2003 (Proposed year was 2000)	<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b> 2005	
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b> Ms Camellia Rahman, Asstt. Project Director, 12, Gaznavi road, College gate, Dhaka-1207		
<b>Objective</b> To build and consolidate the capacity of the government to realize its current policy on women and its commitments to mainstream gender issues by promoting Gender Responsive Governance through gender training to the GoB officials across the sectors. So the immediate objectives of the project stands to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build institutional capacity for gender training</li> <li>• Build capacity of the national training institutions identified for gender integrated training and specialized gender training programmes.</li> <li>• Build capacity of public sector officials and staff for the mainstreaming of gender.</li> </ul>		
<b>Target group</b> Gender training for the government officials as the project aims at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing gender training to GoB officials at the policy, planning and administration levels through building the capacity of the core national training institutions for imparting comprehensive and continuous gender training to these personnel.</li> <li>• Further strengthening the capacity of MoWCA for overall execution of the programme, which includes planning, design, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the entire process.</li> <li>• Strengthening the capacity of the Ministry of establishment and various national training institutes in formulating and implementing a strategy for capacity development for the mainstreaming of gender.</li> </ul>		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b> Not applicable		
<b>Population Coverage</b> Not applicable		
<b>Activities</b> In collaboration with the partner agencies, the project will <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ conduct gender training need assessment by reviewing training programmes in the training institutions;</li> <li>◇ redesign training curriculum by incorporating gender perspective;</li> <li>◇ provide training of the trainers, which orients and develops capacity of a core team of trainers selected from the training institutes with gender perspectives;</li> <li>◇ support the core team to provide training to other trainers in their respective institutes;</li> <li>◇ ensure gender institutionalization into training programmes of the partner institutions. These main activities will be subcontracted to institutions with relevant experiences.</li> </ul>		

Source: Capacity Building for Gender Mainstreaming Project

## Empowerment and Protection of Children and Women\_DWA

<b>Title</b> <b>Empowerment and Protection of Children and Women</b> This project is formed with three subprojects: Addressing Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Discrimination against Children and Women Promotion of Child Rights and Gender Equality Empowerment of Adolescent Girls		<b>Status</b> On going
<b>Geographical Coverage</b> 64 districts and all Upazillas (Subproject 1 and 2) 14 districts for subproject 3 (of which 5 are coastal districts i.e., Chittagong, Cox'sbazar, Feni, Chandpur and Lakshmpur)		
<b>Implementing Agency</b> Department of Women's Affairs (DWA) (for subproject 3 Adolescent Peer Organized Network-APON: BRAC, Centre for Mass Education in Science-CMES: Adolescent Girl's Programme, Population Council)		
<b>Fund Source</b> GoB and UNICEF	<b>Funds Allocated</b> BDT 357 million	
<b>Start Date</b> January 2001	<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b> December 2005 (Subproject 3 will be completed in July 2004)	
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b> Ms Nahid Sultana, Programme Officer, Empowerment and Protection of Children and Women DWA, MoWCA, 37/3, Eskaton Garden (6 <sup>th</sup> floor), Tel: 9345220		
<b>Objective</b> <b>Subproject 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• create a platform for discussion regarding Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Non-Commercial Sexual Abuse of Children;</li> <li>• design and implement interventions to prevent abuse and exploitation</li> <li>• protect children from all forms of sexual exploitation, abuse and discrimination.</li> </ul> <b>Subproject 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• develop capacity of the government officials and NGOs staff in child rights and gender equity</li> <li>• ensure that the government runs institutions applies protection and care standards</li> </ul> <b>Subproject 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on the discrimination of the adolescent girls policy makers, development partners and NGOs are knowledgeable about the rights of adolescent girls peer education and livelihood training in three districts piloted to generate lessons learned.</li> </ul>		
<b>Target group</b> UP members, NGO workers, NGO officials and staffs (For subproject 1 and 2) Adolescent girls (For subproject 3)		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b> Unmarried adolescent girls for subproject 3. (Not applicable for sub project 1 and 2)		
<b>Population Coverage</b> Not applicable		
<b>Activities</b> <b>Subproject 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• research on domestic violence and its impact on family members (children, in particular), harassment and discrimination within the workplace, protection rights of Chittagong hill Tracts, psychological impact of early marriage;</li> <li>• provide technical support to MoWCA and any other related ministries in implementing and coordinating the National Agenda for Action against sexual exploitation and abuse of children including trafficking;</li> <li>• develop advocacy &amp; communication materials on sexual exploitation, abuse and discrimination;</li> <li>• develop, pretest and incorporate a module on Juvenile Justice and protection from violence including sexual exploitation, abuse and discrimination into the training curriculum of police officers, magistrates and judges;</li> <li>• knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) study and training on psycho-social care and protection for staff and</li> </ul>		

social workers in government and NGO shelter and vagrant homes;

- training on participating mapping technique, peer education and life skills to protect the rights of most vulnerable population at risk of commercial and non commercial sexual exploitation and abuse;
- formulation and reform of national policies which includes measures to combat family abuse, harmful traditional practices and discrimination against the girl child;
- KAP study of UP members, police and local elite to understand the situation for women victims of violence including sexual exploitation and abuse in the locality. Sensitization of these key community members on gender based violence. Strengthen and/or build linkages between the service providers;
- analysis and review of existing laws including customary laws and its dissemination. Advocacy for law reform when necessary;
- financial report to Acid Survivors foundation to provide psycho-social care and protection for survivors of acid attacks.

#### **Subproject 2**

- review relevant policies, legislation and State obligations to CRC and CEDAW through research, workshops and dialogue with government and NGOs;
- support for nation-wide observance of International Women's Day, Begum Rokeya's Day and Child Rights Week;
- interactive training on children's and women's rights including gender discrimination for UNOs and Ward Commissioners;
- orientation on human rights to government and NGOs working on children's and women's right;
- assessment on children deprived of family environment followed by implementation of the main recommendations.

#### **Subproject 3**

- regular meetings to the Kishori Sanghas to discuss critical issues related to gender discrimination and girl's and women's rights;
- identification of livelihood training, apprenticeship/ internship opportunities and livelihood training imparted by the NGOs;
- self-employment or direct employment and linkages established with formal credit and saving institutions for members who have undertaken livelihood training;
- girl's trained as peer educators on family life education, children's and women's rights (including discriminatory practices), and post literacy.
- village level campaigns undertaken by members of Kishori Sanghas to participate in social processes and raise issues on early marriage, violence and discrimination with mothers, fathers, boys, elected members, elite;
- national exchange programmes, workshops will be organize by and for the members of Kishori Sanghas as exposure to the best practices;
- gender and child rights training with UP members in intervention areas;
- advocacy and communication for behavioral change to enhance the rights of adolescents;
- formative research and develop advocacy materials for adolescents (boys in particular) to expose them to gender discrimination and violence. Materials will be used by the NGOs for discussions and workshops;
- workshops with government and NGOs for creation of an adolescent policy
- intervention research on adolescent girls intervention areas for baseline, mid-term and follow up to generate lessons learned, to close gaps in information and for scaling up.

Source: DWA

## Multi-Sectoral Project on Against Gender Violence\_DWA

<b>Title</b>		<b>Status</b>
Multi Sectoral Project on against Gender Violence		On-going
<b>Geographical Coverage</b>		
Dhaka and Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (The project will cover rest of the four Divisions. Barisal and Chittagong Medical College Hospital has already received the permit from the Ministry of Health and Family Planning)		
<b>Implementing Agency</b>		
Ministry of Women's and Children's Affairs in line with Health and family Planning Ministry, Information Ministry, Social Welfare Ministry and Ministry off Home Affairs.		
<b>Fund Source</b>		<b>Funds Allocated</b>
MoWCA and Government of Denmark		
<b>Start Date</b>		<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b>
January 2001		October 2003 (piloting phase of the project)
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b>		
Dr Zahedul Karim Ahmed, Project Director Multi Sectoral Programme for Violence against Women (4 <sup>th</sup> floor) DWA, 37/3 Eskaton Garden, Dhaka.		
<b>Objective</b>		
The overall objective of the project is to protect and prevent the violence against women as the programme believes that one of the solution of violence against women is to support the health system in a way that it can provide emergency services, medication, legal aid, forensic test and counseling service to the victims.		
<b>Intermediate objectives</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved handling of violence cases by the health services.</li> <li>• Improved handling and investigation of violence cases by the police.</li> <li>• Improved women's access, especially of poor women, to the criminal justice system.</li> <li>• Increased public awareness, condemnation and resistance to all forms of violence.</li> </ul>		
<b>Immediate objectives</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Established and functioning multisectoral management structure for dealing with violence against women.</li> <li>• Completed pilot activities whose assessment forms the basis of the following five-year phase.</li> <li>• Five-year phase proposal prepared and preparatory activities has done.</li> </ul>		
<b>Target group</b>		
Victimized women		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b>		
Not applicable		
<b>Population Coverage</b>		
282 cases till May 2003. (Domestic Violence: 142, Sexual abuse: 108, Burn: 32)		
<b>Activities</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ one of the major solutions of violence against women is to provide support to the health service system;</li> <li>◇ established one-stop crisis center for immediate action in DMCH and RMCH;</li> <li>◇ completed the burn unit development in DMCH;</li> <li>◇ established forensic laboratory for DNA profiling;</li> <li>◇ public awareness campaign;</li> <li>◇ established the management structure of the multi sectoral activities of this project;</li> <li>◇ coordination with the related agencies;</li> <li>◇ inter ministerial steering committee has been formed to coordinate all the activities under this pilot project.</li> </ul>		

Source: DWA

## Advocacy on Reproductive Health and Gender through Rural Cooperatives \_BRDB

<b>Title</b> <i>Advocacy on Reproductive Health and Gender through Rural Cooperatives</i> (This project is the 4 <sup>th</sup> phase of “Family Welfare Education and Motivation for Family Planning Services through Rural Cooperatives”.)		<b>Status</b> On-going
<b>Geographical Coverage</b> 299 Upazilas in 59 Districts of Bangladesh (of which 14 are coastal districts: Jessore, Narail, Gopalganj, Chandpur, Satkhira, bagerhat, Pirojpur, Barisal, Feni, Barguna, Payuakhali, Bhola, Chittagong, Cox’s bazar)		
<b>Implementing Agency</b> BRDB		
<b>Fund Source</b> United Nations Population Council	<b>Funds Allocated</b> BDT 15 million	
<b>Start Date</b> January 2003 (1 <sup>st</sup> phase was initiated in 1985)	<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b> December 2005	
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b> Project Director Advocacy on Reproductive Health and Gender through Rural Cooperatives BRDB, 5th Floor, Palli Bhaban, 5 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka		
<b>Objective</b> To motivate the eligible couples under this project to accept family planning measures for planned family as well as to achieve the goal of population control and implement Family Welfare Education. Besides this project also aims to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide training on reproductive health, primary health care, private hygiene, environment and safe water, nutrition, mother &amp; child health care, family planning, safe motherhood and extensive immunization etc;</li> <li>• ensure supply of contraceptives to all the eligible couples according to their choice amongst contraception group members in the project area;</li> <li>• motivate men and women about the consequences of STD including HIV/AIDS/RTI and so on;</li> <li>• make the UCCAs and the primary cooperatives and groups as the focal point of service delivery in close coordination with the local offices of the Ministry of Health and family Welfare as well as Family Planning Directorate.</li> </ul>		
<b>Target group</b> Female cooperative members (Eligible couples)		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b> Eligible couples with literacy and minimum awareness on family planning issues.		
<b>Population Coverage</b> 149500 eligible couples and 7475 volunteer		
<b>Activities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ review and monitoring training for the volunteers to aware the target group about gender issues, family planning and safe motherhood, child care and nutrition;</li> <li>◇ reproductive health training for each batch for once in the whole project period;</li> <li>◇ country side tour for the target people to exchange views with other project activities of BRDB;</li> <li>◇ seminar for the policy makers, daylong seminar for the decision maker on the broader issues like reproductive health, family planning and gender issues;</li> <li>◇ curriculum review working sessions to develop the contents of the training material for the beneficiaries;</li> <li>◇ steering committee meeting for the better implementation of the project, usually the National Steering Committee will meet quarterly;</li> <li>◇ training on latest computer literacy for the project officials.</li> </ul>		

Source: Implementation plan 2003-2004, BRDB 2002. Annual Report 2000/01.

## Integrated Rural Women Development Program\_BRDB

<b>Title</b> Integrated Rural Women Development Program		<b>Status</b> Ongoing
<b>Geographical Coverage</b> 57 districts with 152 Upazilas in Bangladesh (of which 45 upazila's of 16 coastal Districts, except Noakhali, Jhalkathi and Shariatpur)		
<b>Implementing Agency</b> BRDB		
<b>Fund Source</b> GoB	<b>Funds Allocated</b> BDT 677.6 million	
<b>Start Date</b> July 1996	<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b> June 2004	
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b> Md. Abdul Fattah, Project Director Integrated Rural Women Development Program BRDB, 5th Floor, Palli Bhaban, 5 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka		
<b>Objective</b> The programme aims at social and economic empowerment of women with priority on poverty alleviation along with population control. Besides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ to organize rural poor women into co-operative for their participation in the socio-economic development;</li> <li>◇ to improve rural women's socio-economic conditions by equipping them with knowledge and skills through training;</li> <li>◇ to provide working capital to the co-operative members for undertaking different income generating activities (IGAs) and entrepreneurship development of the projects.</li> </ul>		
<b>Target group</b> Younger women preferably newly married women eligible as cooperative members, female head of household, poor and destitute women.		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ age limit between 18-35 years;</li> <li>◇ land holdings limit for the members family is one acre agricultural land;</li> <li>◇ one member from one family.</li> </ul>		
<b>Population Coverage</b> Cumulative achievement till December 2002 is 252126 out of the targeted 600000 members.		
<b>Activities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ formation of MSS;</li> <li>◇ capital accumulation through cooperatives;</li> <li>◇ credit program/ management to facilitate MSS members to undertake different IGA base economic activities;</li> <li>◇ training;</li> <li>◇ family planning &amp; health nutrition.</li> </ul>		

Source: IRWDP, BRDB 2002. Annual Report 2000/01.

## Self Employment Project of the Poor Women\_BRDB

<b>Title</b> Self Employment Project of the Rural Women		<b>Status</b> On-going
<b>Geographical Coverage</b> 21 upazila's of Jessore, Jhinaidah, Magura and Narail districts. (of which Jessore and Narail are the coastal districts with 11 upazilas)		
<b>Implementing Agency</b> BRDB		
<b>Fund Source</b> GoB	<b>Funds Allocated</b> BDT 100 million	
<b>Start Date</b> July 1998	<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b> 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2003 (project will be expanded)	
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b> Project Director, DAMAC BRDB, 5th Floor, Palli Bhaban, 5 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka		
<b>Objective</b> Social and financial empowerment of the poor and destitute women and their livelihood improvement through poverty alleviation.		
<b>Target group</b> Poor and destitute women		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b> Asset less women with the capability to repay the highest amount of loan Tk 4,000-15,000 by increasing simple credit within 50 installments.		
<b>Population Coverage</b> 28023 members of 1029 Mohila Bittohin Samobay Samity.		
<b>Activities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• formation of 1050 Mohila Bittahin Shamobay Samity;</li> <li>• incorporate 36750 assetless women in the Samity;</li> <li>• formation of 21 Mahila Bittohin Kendrio Samobay Samity in 21 upazilas;</li> <li>• 327 lakh Taka capital generation of the women;</li> <li>• creation of loan fund of Tk 2160 lakh in income generating activities;</li> <li>• training for the beneficiaries and the staffs on skill development, leadership, IGA, accounting, female law, health, nutrition and family planning, tailoring etc.</li> </ul>		

Source: Project office, BRDB 2002. Annual Report 2000/01

## Rural Poverty Alleviation Program\_BRDB

<b>Title</b> Rural Poverty Alleviation Program		<b>Status</b> On-going
<b>Geographical Coverage</b> Barguna, Patuakhali, Chandpur, Chittagong and Cox's Bazar are the coastal districts		
<b>Implementing Agency</b> BRDB		
<b>Fund Source</b> GoB	<b>Funds Allocated</b> BDT 1,327 million	
<b>Start Date</b> 1993	<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b>	
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b> Project Director Rural Poverty Alleviation Program BRDB, 5th Floor, Palli Bhaban, 5 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka		
<b>Objective</b> Overall improvement of the livelihood condition or the socio-economic condition of the poor people (male and female) by organizing them into non-formal groups and facilitate in capital formation, training and credit facility to create self-employment opportunity.		
<b>Target group</b> Poor male and female		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b>		
<b>Population Coverage</b> Male member 23,457 and female member 56,166 (60% women's participation has been ensured in the project groups and membership criteria.)		
<b>Activities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• formation of non-formal groups(both female -male);</li> <li>• training on human resource, skill development and social development;</li> <li>• self capital formation through savings;</li> <li>• micro credit against income generating activities;</li> <li>• provide marketization facility;</li> <li>• achieve solvency through sustainable fund.</li> <li>• Besides activities like health and nutrition, family planning, self-awareness, adult literacy, use of improved hearth, participation in the tree plantation program etc. which has link with the environmental development and women's empowerment program.</li> </ul>		

Source: BRDB 2002. Annual Report 2000/01.



## Rural Livelihood Project\_ BRDB

<b>Title</b>		<b>Status</b>
Rural Livelihood Project (RLP)		On-going
<b>Geographical Coverage</b>		
152 upazillas in greater Rajshahi, Kushtia, Jessore and Pabna districts (of which Barisal, Bhola, Jhalkati, Cox's Bazar, Gopalganj, Jessore, Chittagong, Chandpur and Narail among the coastal districts)		
<b>Implementing Agency</b>		
BRDB		
<b>Fund Source</b>		<b>Funds Allocated</b>
GoB and ADB		BDT 3,450 million
<b>Start Date</b>		<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b>
July 1998		June 2004
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b>		
Mr. Shamsul Alam Project Director, Rural Livelihood Project BRDB, 5th Floor, Palli Bhaban, 5 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka		
<b>Objective</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ social empowerment and enhancement of self-awareness and confidence of the rural poor especially of the women;</li> <li>◇ increase professional skill through training on different income generating activities (IGAs);</li> <li>◇ provide micro-credit to the rural poor especially to the women to take over the income generating activities (IGAs);</li> <li>◇ support to establish an experimental '<u>District Assetless Bank</u>' to ensure flow of micro-credit to the poor people permanently.</li> </ul>		
<b>Target group</b>		
Poor community especially the poor women.		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b>		
<b>Population Coverage</b>		
325,502		
<b>Activities</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• formation of co-operatives;</li> <li>• provide micro-credit;</li> <li>• training support for the staffs, employees of RLP and for the cooperative management mainly on cooperative management, skill development, income generating activities etc.</li> <li>• environment development activities through integrating environment conservation and health related issues in each of the training activity to aware the cooperatives members.</li> </ul>		

Source: BRDB 2002. Annual Report 2000/01.

## Rural Development Project -24\_LGED

<b>Title</b> <b>Rural Development Project-24: Greater Faridpur Rural Infrastructure Development Project</b> (Employment Generation and Poverty Alleviation Project through Participatory Rural Infrastructure Development)		<b>Status</b> Ongoing
<b>Geographical Coverage</b> 27 Upazillas of 5 districts (Faridpur, Madaripur, Rajbari, Gopalganj and Shariatpur) of which 2 are coastal districts Gopalganj and Shariatpur		
<b>Implementing Agency</b> Local Government Engineering Department (LGED)		
<b>Fund Source</b> GoB, JBIC (Japan Bank for International Cooperation)	<b>Funds Allocated</b> BDT 4707 million	
<b>Start Date</b> July 1998	<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b> June 2005	
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b> Ms Salma Shahid, Asstt. Engineer, RDP-24, LGED Bhaban, Dhaka		
<b>Objective</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ build rural infrastructures i.e., FR-B, rural road, bridge culvert on feeder road and rural road which will improve rural communication network. Improve economic condition of the landless and marginal farmers through agricultural production and expand rural trade and improve the overall economic activities of the project area;</li> <li>◇ facilitate marketing of the agricultural production and ensure fair price of the agricultural product through construction and upgrading physical facilities of growth centers;</li> <li>◇ create short and long term employment opportunities for the rural poor through construction and maintenance of the rural infrastructure;</li> <li>◇ create employment opportunities for destitute women and improve the environmental condition through tree plantation by the side of the FRBs and important rural roads.</li> </ul>		
<b>Target group</b> Destitute women of the society		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group of women labourers who belonged to the primary target group of RESP and represent the households of landless labourers who depends on manual labour as their main source of income and who do not own or operate more than 0.5 acres of agricultural land, landless groups organized as BSS, MBSS by BRDB and groups associated with or recommended by a NGO shall be eligible to work as LCS.</li> <li>• For tree plantation the destitute women's of the locality. LCS/ERM group selects the members with the assistance of IDP district technical assistance team and get appointment by EE/TE</li> </ul>		
<b>Population Coverage</b>		
<b>Activities</b> Project activities are mostly labor intensive. It is expected that income level of the local people will raise due to implementation of the project, as they will get additional employment. Major activities are as follows <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ development of physical infrastructure like roads, bridge, culverts, growth centers etc.;</li> <li>◇ provide Union Market management Committee training on the growth center development;</li> <li>◇ construction of union parishad complex;</li> <li>◇ training to the female traders on sale, accounting and shop keeping;</li> <li>◇ training for the contractors and LCSs;</li> <li>◇ fund allocation for the LCS members to engage in new income generating activities to sustain their families after graduating from the LCS related activities.</li> </ul>		

Source: PP, RDP-24, IDP instructions.

## Local Partnership for Urban Poverty Alleviation Project \_LGED

<b>Title</b>		<b>Status</b>
Local Partnership for Urban Poverty Alleviation Project		On-going
<b>Geographical Coverage</b>		
For Part-1: UNDP assisted Local Partnerships for Urban Poverty Alleviation Component: Chittagong, Khulna, Barisal City Corporation and Gopalganj.		
For Part- 2: UNICEF assisted Support for Basic service in Urban area component: Chittagong, Khulna, Barisal City Corporation, Noakhali, Jessore, Barguna, Feni, Bhola and Cox's Bazar Pourashava.		
<b>Implementing Agency</b>		
LGED in association with City Corporations and 21 Pourashavas		
<b>Fund Source</b>		<b>Funds Allocated</b>
Bangladesh Government, UNICEF, UNDP		BDT 1503 million
<b>Start Date</b>		<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b>
Part-1: July 1999		Part-1: 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2004
Part-2: January 2001		Part-2: 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2006
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b>		
Ms Naznin Sultana Afroz, Asstt. Project Director, LPUPAP, LGED, Dhaka		
<b>Objective</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• poverty alleviation through empowerment of urban poor;</li> <li>• develop the capacity of local governments and other organizations to support the efforts of the urban poor to overcome poverty through the establishment of mutually supporting partnerships;</li> <li>• facilitate the communities to plan their own settlements and services and to implement and monitor the developments;</li> <li>• mobilize the collective capacity, resources and the power of the urban poor to improve their socio-economic condition;</li> <li>• co-ordination of government, Local government and NGO efforts to support the urban poor;</li> <li>• create a sustainable process of supporting people's efforts to overcome poverty for it to become the mainstream policy of urban governance;</li> <li>• strengthen local capacity &amp; facilitate co-ordination of the GoB-UNICEF sectoral programs for providing basic services for the urban poor children and women;</li> <li>• support appropriate program implementation mechanism within city corporations and pourashavas;</li> <li>• advocate for comprehensive urban policy and strategy.</li> </ul>		
<b>Target group</b>		
Poor women and children living in the slum area. (for part I) and PIC members and Project Staffs and working children for part II.		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ Monthly family income 3500 and below.</li> <li>◇ Working women aged 18 years and above</li> <li>◇ Working children aged 8-14 years</li> </ul>		
<b>Population coverage</b>		
Target coverage is 45,000 poor families in urban slum area. (for part I)		
<b>Activities</b>		
Key activities of the part I are as follows		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ micro credit to the poor families for self employment;</li> <li>◇ community development etc.</li> </ul>		
Key activities of the part II are as follows		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ training of PIC members and Project Staff on CRC and CEDAW;</li> <li>◇ project formulation and management training for the project staff;</li> <li>◇ workshop to develop project plans of action for children and women in urban areas;</li> <li>◇ skill development program for the women group members;</li> <li>◇ provide support to NFE center in 21 pourashavas;</li> </ul>		

- ◇ exchange visits of PIC member, GoB officials and project staff within city corporation/ pourashavas.

Besides following project activities under the National Programmes are supported in urban areas

- ◇ Health and Nutrition Programme: child health (EPI, ARI, CDD), women's health, and nutrition, emerging public health issues.
- ◇ Water and Environmental sanitation: Water and sanitation facility in urban areas along with arsenic measurement, mitigation, research and development;
- ◇ Child Development and education programme: basic education for the working children, quality learning package incorporating life skills and family life education;
- ◇ Protection: birth registration and CRC and Gender training for the Ward commissioners and UDC personnel;
- ◇ Rights planning, monitoring and communication: data collection on the situation of urban children and women, urban specific FFL communication guidelines and communication skills for the UDC and NGO workers, refreshers training, etc.

Source: PP of LPUPAP, LGED.

## Gender Quality Action Learning (GQAL) Program\_BRAC

<b>Title</b> Gender Quality Action Learning (GQAL) Program		<b>Status</b> On-going
<b>Geographical Coverage</b> Not Applicable		
<b>Implementing Agency</b> Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC)		
<b>Fund Source</b> BRAC	<b>Funds Allocated</b> Not applicable	
<b>Start Date</b> 1994	<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b> Not applicable	
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b> Gender Quality Action Learning (GQAL) Program Gender Relation Cell, BRAC Center, 75 Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212		
<b>Objective</b> GQAL program is one of the major programmatic interventions of BRAC to establishing gender equitable society and the programme intend to accomplish two broad goals, namely 1. Improving the quality of program with Village Organization women. 2. Improving the quality of gender relations within BRAC. Thus the main objectives remain as follows <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increase confidence and respect towards ability and competencies of women and reduce gender division of labor which includes to show respect to others opinion, work and time, and attentive in giving logical explanation and reasons where necessary;</li> <li>• improve competency of staff in participatory and democratic problem solving and decision making, assertiveness, management capacity and leadership management with a specific focus to women;</li> <li>• increase respectful cooperation, ownership and accountability of women and men between peers, colleagues, supervisors and to the program participants of BRAC;</li> <li>• increase staff capacity to plan, deliver and monitor gender equitable programming;</li> <li>• improve clarity regarding goals of BRAC and capability of logical explanation and rationality of action, values, norms and practices.</li> <li>• increase staff capacity to plan, deliver and monitor gender equitable programming;</li> <li>• improve clarity regarding goals of BRAC and capability of logical explanation and rationality of action, values, norms and practices.</li> </ul>		
<b>Target group</b> All BRAC staffs and its village organizations members.		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b> Not applicable		
<b>Population Coverage</b> 16808 staffs of BRAC that covers 60% of the total and of which 31% is female.		
<b>Activities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research and Evaluation Division (RED) did a research study to assess the effectiveness of the GQAL program after completion of its first phase in 2001.</li> <li>• BRAC Training Division has launched a two-year pilot project "GQAL with VO members" from January 2002 jointly with RED.</li> <li>• Provided consultancy and training on 'Reproductive Health and Gender' to RH project, UNFPA.</li> <li>• Provided training on Gender sensitivity to Save the Children USA.</li> <li>• Developed manual and provided training to BRAC health service providers funded by Asian Pacific Research and Resource center (ARRWO), Malaysia.</li> <li>• Started work on "Empowerment of Adolescent Girls Project" with the collaboration of UNICEF and Ministry of Women and Children Affairs of Bangladesh.</li> <li>• Represent Bangladesh and BRAC from NGO sector to the fifth Commonwealth Conference.</li> </ul>		

Source: BRAC Gender Relations Cell

## Integrated Multisectoral Women's Development Programme\_PROSHIKA

<b>Title</b> Integrated Multisectoral Women's Development Programme (IMWDP)		<b>Status</b> Ongoing
<b>Geographical Coverage</b> 244 Upazilas in 57 districts (of which 45 Upazilas in 17 coastal districts accept Satkhira and Lakshmipur)		
<b>Implementing Agency</b> <b>PROSHIKA: A Centre for Human Development</b> (Gender Relations Coordination Cell- GRCC is responsible to ensure systematic and well-coordinated implementation of all activities of the IMWDP and monitoring the achievements in different components of programmes as well as comparing them with set targets.)		
<b>Fund Source</b> Global budget	<b>Funds Allocated</b> Not applicable	
<b>Start Date</b> 1976 (since inception of PROSHIKA)	<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b> Not applicable	
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b> Ms Fouzia Khondokar Eva Deputy Director, Gender Relations Coordination Cell (GRCC) PROSHIKA, I/1-Ga, Section-2, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216 Tel: 9005795, 9005797, 8013398		
<b>Objective</b> To address both practical and strategic needs of women with an integrated approach to combat the odds women face and bring a positive and meaningful change in their lives. (This programme is given special importance and priority to the female groups for equal opportunities along side their male counterparts.)		
<b>Target group</b> Female groups		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b> Not applicable		
<b>Population Coverage</b> 1,568,928 lakh women (in 86406 women's group) in 187 Area Development Centres in all over Bangladesh. (2001)		
<b>Activities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• organize women's groups with an average membership range;</li> <li>• provide formal and non formal training courses respectively on different human and practical skills to acquire the scientific cognition of the society in general and problems of women in particular and find out the ways and means to combat the problems they face;</li> <li>• improve the overall literacy situation of the rural poor women that includes female adult literacy centers and increase the enrollment of girls into non formal schools;</li> <li>• credit delivery among the women group members;</li> <li>• in implementing income and employment generating activities, encourage women to undertake non-traditional productive activities organized outside home to help them to break the stereotype of sexual division of labour;</li> <li>• social empowerment through increase of literacy rate and social awareness, participation in community and political institutions, women's mobility and decision making power and through decrease of women's oppression;</li> <li>• social awareness building on sanitation and equal rights in terms of access to public and private resources, and against fundamentalism in particular;</li> <li>• ensure participation of female staff members in various levels of PROSHIKA management, beginning from the field position to the central management.</li> </ul>		

Source: GRCC, PROSHIKA.

## Women's Small Scale Local Organization\_CCDB

<b>Title</b>		<b>Status:</b>
Women's Small Local Organization (WSLO) (*This is a special need program of CCDB)		On going
<b>Geographical Coverage</b>		
8 Districts of Khulna division, i.e. Khulna, Satkhira, Bagerhat, Jessore, Jhenaidha, Narail, Kushtia & Meherpur (of which 5 are coastal districts)		
<b>Implementing Agency</b>		
Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB)		
<b>Fund Source</b>	<b>Funds Allocated</b>	
Different donor agencies abroad	BDT 45.50 million (Committed for next 4 years)	
<b>Start Date</b>	<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b>	
July 1998	June 2007	
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b>		
Ms. Ataurun Nabi, Program Manager, Women's Small Local Organization (WSLO), CCDB 88 Senpara, Parbatta, Mirpur 10, Dhaka 1216. Phone: 8011970-3; Fax no. 8013556. Email: <a href="mailto:ccdb@bangla.net">ccdb@bangla.net</a>		
<b>Objective</b>		
Key objectives of this program are as follows		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ to strengthen organizational and management capacities of selected WSLOs;</li> <li>◇ to enhance programmatic capacities of WSLO's;</li> <li>◇ to sensitize WSLO's so that they can effectively contribute to promotion of societal peace;</li> <li>◇ to help develop networking of WSLO's for mutual learning &amp; sharing of experiences to ensure increasing participation and solidarity amongst women of various walks of life in order to decrease gender discrimination.</li> </ul>		
<b>Target group</b>		
Selected 25 WSLO's in mentioned 8 districts		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b>		
WSLO's select their beneficiaries as per their set criteria		
<b>Population Coverage</b>		
Usually each WSLO's has target to cover 300 – 500 beneficiaries within their respective area of operation.		
<b>Activities</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ organizational development support;</li> <li>◇ management support;</li> <li>◇ programmatic support;</li> <li>◇ promotion of societal peace;</li> <li>◇ networking support;</li> <li>◇ staff capacity building etc.</li> </ul>		

Source: Women's Small Local Organization, CCDB, 2003.

## Rural Maintenance Program (RMP) \_CARE

<b>Title</b>		<b>Status</b>
Rural Maintenance Program		On-going
<b>Geographical Coverage</b>		
61 districts		
<b>Implementing Agency</b>		
LGED, Ministry of Local Government, CARE – Bangladesh		
<b>Fund Source</b>		<b>Funds Allocated</b>
Canadian food aid		
<b>Start Date</b>		<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b>
1983		
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b>		
Care Bangladesh		
<b>Objective</b>		
Create employment opportunity for the destitute women in Bangladesh.		
<b>Target group</b>		
Destitute women		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b>		
Rural asset less women (owner of less than 0.05 acre land)		
<b>Population Coverage</b>		
42, 000 destitute women in Bangladesh and 13,500 in coastal zone		
<b>Activities</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ under this program approximately 82,000 km of rural earthen roads will receive year round routine maintenance in 4,100 unions of 435 upazilas of 61 districts;</li> <li>◇ 42,596 km rural roads are being maintained and provide employment to approximately 42,000 destitute women. Of this, distressed women in 25 upazilas of 3 hill districts have been employed for repair and maintenance of 1675 km rural roads;</li> <li>◇ in each Union 20 km road will be maintained.</li> </ul>		

Source: GoB, 1998. The Fifth Five Year Plan 1997 – 2002. Planning Commission; Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.  
GoB, 2001. Bangladesh Economic Review, 2001. Economic Adviser's Wing, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh.



## Micro-Credit Programs\_Govt., NGOs, Banks (2001)

<b>Title</b>		<b>Status</b>
Micro-credit by Govt programs, NGOs and Banks ( 2001)		Ongoing
<b>Geographical Coverage</b>		
All over Bangladesh		
<b>Implementing Agency</b>		
Govt.: MoF, RDCD, MoWCA, MoSW, MoLE, Cabinet division, MoFL, MoI, MoA, MoL, LGD, MoYS, MoT. NGOs: Local coastal NGOs (total 159) and National NGOs (ASA, BRAC, PROSHIKA, CARITAS). Banks: Grameen Bank and Public sector scheduled banks: SB, AB, JB, RB, BKB, RKUB.		
<b>Fund Source</b>	<b>Funds Allocated</b>	
Donors, Revolving Loan Fund (RLF), PKSF loan etc.	Govt: BDT 37770.7 million (in BD) NGOs: National BDT 8,823 million (in CZ) and Local coastal NGOs: BDT 6408.72 million (in CZ) Banks: Grameen Bank BDT 154105 million (in CZ) Pub sec scheduled banks: BDT 79420.7 million (in BD)	
<b>Start Date</b>	<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b>	
Not applicable	Not applicable	
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b>		
Not necessary		
<b>Objective</b>		
Poverty alleviation and empowering the poor through income generating activities and/or self-employment.		
<b>Target group</b>		
Mainly the poorer women		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b>		
Mainly the asset less, poor, destitute women		
<b>Population Coverage</b>		
NGOs: National NGOs 1,313,034 in CZ Local coastal NGOs: 675868 in CZ Banks: Grameen Bank: 118,929 Public sector scheduled banks: 11530375 in BD		
<b>Activities</b>		
Micro credit for income generating activities.		

Source: Ministry of Finance, CDF 2002, BRAC, ASA, PROSHIKA, CARITAS, and GB.

**Dustha Mohila Bhata Program (2000/01)\_SWSD**

<b>Title</b> Dustha Mohila Bhata Program		<b>Status</b> On-going
<b>Geographical Coverage</b> 41526 ward of 153 Pourashavas and 4479 union of 461 upazilas		
<b>Implementing Agency</b> Social Welfare Services Department		
<b>Fund Source</b> GoB	<b>Funds Allocated</b>	
<b>Start Date</b>	<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b>	
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b> Director General Social Welfare Services, Agargaon		
<b>Objective</b> Provide allowance to helpless and distressed women abandoned by their husband		
<b>Target group</b> Helpless and distressed women abandoned by their husband		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b> 6 distressed women in each ward. For each person allowance of 125 taka per month are given.		
<b>Population Coverage</b> Over 200,000 women 2001/02 period in the whole country and 62,640 women in the coastal zone.		
<b>Activities</b> Allocation for this program from 1999/00 financial year is Tk. 250 million. A total of over 0.2 million poor, distressed, helpless widow and women abandoned by husbands are being provided allowance at the rate of Tk. 100 per month out of this allocation in 4479 unions and 41526 wards.		

Source: GoB, 2002. Bangladesh Economic Review, 2002. Economic Adviser's Wing, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh.

## Vulnerable Group Development Program (VGD)\_WFP

<b>Title</b> Vulnerable Group Development Program		<b>Status</b> On-going																									
<b>Geographical Coverage</b> All districts																											
<b>Implementing Agency</b> WFP, GoB, NGO																											
<b>Fund Source</b> World Food Programme (WFP)		<b>Funds Allocated</b>																									
<b>Start Date</b> 1975		<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b> Not applicable																									
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b> World Food Program, UN Offices, IDB Bhaban Shere-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh																											
<b>Objective</b> Development and income generation of beneficiaries through providing agriculture and health care training																											
<b>Target group</b> Ultra poor rural women																											
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Female heads of households (widowed, divorced, separated, deserted);</li> <li>• Women functionally landless;</li> <li>• Women at childbearing age;</li> <li>• Women with extremely low, irregular or no family income;</li> <li>• Women who are daily or casual laborers;</li> <li>• Women who did not have VGD cards before;</li> <li>• Women who are not members of other service – providing agencies.</li> </ul>																											
<b>Population Coverage</b> 479160 in Bangladesh and 119764 in coastal zone covering 25% of the national figure.																											
<b>Activities</b> <p>◇ This program is predominantly a relief operation. The volume of food grain channeled through FFW and VGD in 1991/92 and 1995/96 was 716 and 640 thousand tons;</p> <p>◇ In recent times this program for destitute women is trying to move from its role of relief provider to a larger development role like providing agriculture and health care training to women beneficiaries;</p> <p>◇ The amount of money spent in the program in different years (in million taka)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>1995/96</th> <th>1996/97</th> <th>1997/98</th> <th>1998/99</th> <th>1999/00</th> <th>2000/01</th> <th>2001/02</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>VGD</td> <td>0</td> <td>2,152.7</td> <td>2,250.9</td> <td>2,089.0</td> <td>2,280.0</td> <td>2,360.0</td> <td>2,430.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VGF</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>762.4</td> <td>5,848.1</td> <td>2,290.0</td> <td>2,970.0</td> <td>1,310.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>◇ The VGD program delivers its products through three components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Union Parishad Vulnerable Group Development (UPVGD)</li> <li>• Women Training Centers Component (WTC) and</li> <li>• Group Leadership Extension Workers component (GLEW).</li> </ul> <p>UPVGD is the biggest component, covering about 90% of the total VGD women. Under this component, poor women receive a monthly ratio of 30 kg wheat over an 18 – month cycle, combined with development packages. Under WTC component, each women trainee receives monthly ratio of 30 kg of wheat over a 12 – month cycle together with training in income generating skills and awareness raising sessions on social, economic, health and nutritional issues.</p> <p>The main aim of GLEW is to link VGD women with training, credit and other development service providers. Currently 500 women benefit from this component and each receives an honorarium equivalent to 100 kg wheat, in both cash (50%) and kind (50%) during a 36 – month cycle.</p>					1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	VGD	0	2,152.7	2,250.9	2,089.0	2,280.0	2,360.0	2,430.0	VGF	0	0	762.4	5,848.1	2,290.0	2,970.0	1,310.0
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Source: GoB, 1998. The Fifth Five Year Plan 1997-2002. Planning Commission; Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

GoB, 2001. Bangladesh Economic Review, 2001. Economic Adviser's Wing, Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh.

GoB, 2002. Bangladesh Economic Review, 2002. Economic Adviser's Wing, Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh.

WFP, 2002. Annual Report 2001. World Food Programme, Bangladesh.

**Boyoshko Bhata Program\_DoSS**

<b>Title</b> Boyoshko Bhata		<b>Status</b> On-going
<b>Geographical Coverage</b> Each ward of every union of Bangladesh (4,479 unions of 461 upazilas and 135 municipalities)		
<b>Implementing Agency</b> Ministry of Social Welfare/Department is in overall management of the program. A cabinet committee comprising Finance Minister as Chairman and Minister for Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives and State Minister for Ministry of Social Welfare as member is responsible for supervision.		
<b>Fund Source</b> GoB	<b>Funds Allocated</b>	
<b>Start Date</b> 1997-98	<b>(Expected) Completion Date</b>	
<b>Contact Person with detailed address, telephone &amp; others</b> Director General Department of Social Services (DoSS), Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka		
<b>Objective</b> Provide support for the oldest people		
<b>Target group</b> Oldest poor male and female		
<b>Beneficiary Selection Criteria</b> 12 oldest poor persons (6 women and 6 men) from each ward of every union of the country. For each person allowance of 125 Taka per month are given.		
<b>Population Coverage</b> 415,170 persons in the whole country and 125,280 persons in the coastal zone.		
<b>Activities</b> Provision was made for Tk. 260 million in the budget for 1997/98 and Tk. 490 million in the budget for 1998/99. Annual allocation of Tk. 500 million was made for 1999/00 through 2001/02.		

Source: GoB, 2001. Bangladesh Economic Review, 2001. Economic Adviser's Wing, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh.  
GoB, 2002. Bangladesh Economic Review, 2002. Economic Adviser's Wing, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh.