



CDP
Promoting Peace & Progress

Hanging Vegetable Garden for reducing household food insecurity

Coastal Development Partnership (CDP) has been working with the waterlogged communities in the coastal region of Bangladesh more than a decade to develop adaptive farming options to sustain livelihood. In the World Exhibition “Technologies For Climate Protection” which is a side event of the 14th United Nations Climate Change Conference (Cop 14), Coastal Development Partnership (CDP) will exhibit a community based innovative homestead-gardening practice to produce vegetables for reducing household food insecurity. In 2003, CDP had started the experiment of hanging vegetable production under Reducing Vulnerability to Climate Change (RVCC) project of CARE in the south west coastal area.



In 2007, CDP with the support of Action Aid Bangladesh has started a participatory action research involving 250 families from Keshabpur Upazilla, Jessore District for developing appropriate methodology and feasibility of hanging vegetable gardening on water logging areas in Southwest Coastal region. The research is ongoing and expected to finish by January, 2009. Moreover, CDP will exhibit photos on other adaptive technologies like floating or artificial island cultivation system, vegetable gardening on floating beds, cage-aquaculture, carp-

fish poly culture, crab fattening etc which are getting popular among the coastal poor to sustain livelihood in a difficult situation.

In the study area a full grown up person takes 30 to 70 gm vegetables per day which means that they are behind the minimum need of 200 gm vegetable per day. Usually in Bangladesh, women from poor families used to take care of family vegetables needs through home=stead gardening. However, in the study area, people have been suffering for two decades and at least six months their home yard is remains submerged under 4 feet water and in rainy season they have to leave their homestead as water gets into their home. Considering the context, CDP proposed community to take part in an experiment of cultivating vegetable in hanging process.



Three 6 feet long and three 2 feet long bamboo sticks are used for making the platform to keep the half oval shaved clay pot which is locally known as “Nada”. A 3 feet long rope and three iron pin are used to keep the bamboo platform. The radius of clay pot is 2 feet and depth of the clay pot is 1.5 feet. Three-fourth of the Clay pot is filled up with 3:1 ratio by soil (75%) & cow dung (25%) for plantation.



Before plantation of the bottle-gourd, Pumpkin and Cucumber seed in the soil it has to keep under water up to 24 hours because the seeds are very hard. In the top 3 proportion of land 1 proportion of cow dung should be taken. Some farmers consume vegetables for their daily needs and some sell in the local market. Cow urine are usually kept in a bottle for 10 to 15 days in a bottle and after that it is mixed with water and sprayed over the plant.

If traditional knowledge on livelihood survival mechanism, practices and innovations of a region which is vulnerable to climate change is properly mapped, many untapped livelihood options could be identified, extended and popularized as sustainable livelihood options. However, such an initiative requires collaborative effort to work with the local community, not merely providing service delivery to the targeted beneficiaries.

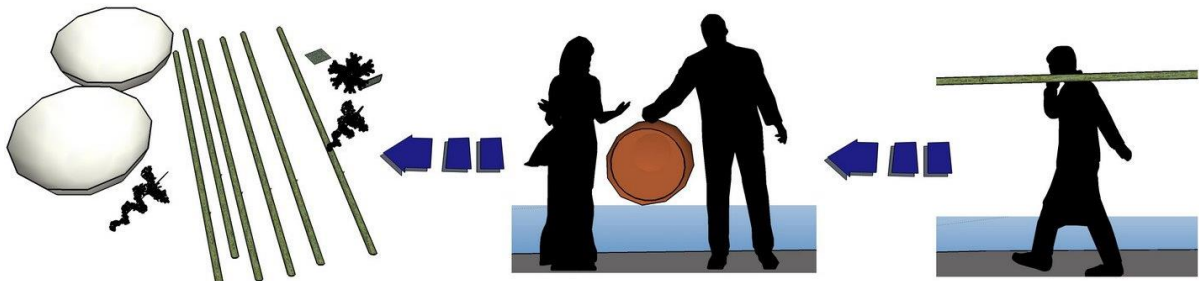
A 3-D model of hanging vegetable garden



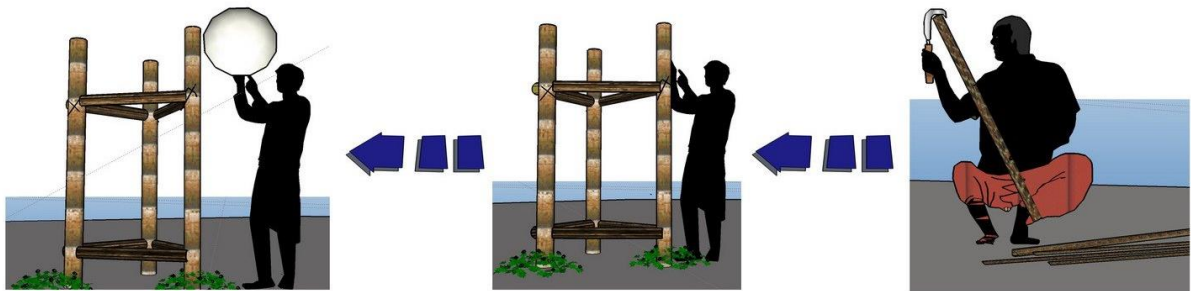
The coastal zone of Bangladesh is identified as the most vulnerable zone of the world to the sea level rise and climate change. The waterlogged areas of the coastal region in Bangladesh could be considered as the ideal natural simulation of sea-level rise situation as a consequence of climate change. The waterlogged community is living such a way which is only possible through the transgression of coastline towards inland. They are not only imprisoned by surrounding water but also facing rapid increment of salinity. This envisages that livelihood innovation

by the affected poor people could be very imperative to address climate induced livelihood vulnerability. The innovation in waterlogged people's struggle for survival in a very difficult condition might provide new thoughts to the global community and might offer ways to the global community about how to survive if sea level rises.

Collection stage



Preparation stage



Plantation & care of stage

