

# Gender Sensitivity and Responsiveness in Adaptation: Revisiting the Experiences of the Pioneering Community-Based Adaptation

Ahsan Uddin Ahmed  
Executive Director  
Centre for Global Change (CGC)



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## Gender Sensitivity and Responsiveness in Adaptation: Revisiting the Experiences of the Pioneering Community- Based Adaptation

Easy ways out:

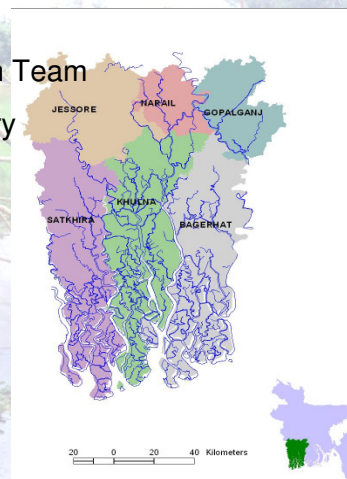
Include females in Project Implementation Team

Include a few females as target beneficiary

Gender Sensitive?

Gender Responsive?

A project 'Reducing Vulnerability to  
Climate Change (RVCC)' was designed  
and implemented between late-2002 &  
early-2005 to promote adaptation to CC.



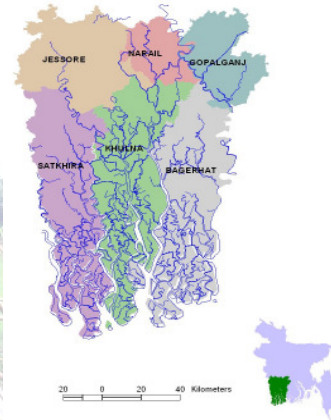
CIDA provided financial assistance for implementation via the Canada Climate Change Adaptation Fund

CARE-Bangladesh implemented the project in southwestern Bangladesh

Goal: To increase capacity of communities (involving 4300 hhs) in the southwestern Bangladesh to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change.

Purpose: Communities and institutions in the southwestern region demonstrate capacity to:

- raise awareness on climate change
- reduce climate change-induced vulnerabilities, and
- influence relevant policies.



Design of the project was the key.

Contexts of Vulnerability of men and women were defined by the 'vulnerable people' themselves.



**Sensitivity Issue** (in a given context): Women were requested to define their vulnerability separately (without the influence of their male counterparts).

The same set of questions yielded different set of responses.

Gender-differentiated vulnerability analysis.

Response measures were identified based on such gender-differentiated VA.

**Gender-responsiveness**



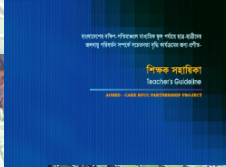


Is there any way to directly address gender-specific concerns?

Do women face trouble towards implementing any of the response measures?

Do women feel left out just because they do not have the know-how?

Do women have different preference towards accessing awareness materials? (Language, form/format, source.....)



Girls' only schools were chosen to introduce a school curricula **(creating equal access to information)**

Folk media was chosen for awareness raising because women preferred it

Timing for awareness raising sessions were chosen carefully so that women could participate after dealing with household chores

A few livelihoods enhancement modalities were chosen so that women could implement those as well as males in the neighbourhood **(Gender-sensitive modality, timing, etc.)**

Women were given training on managing low-cost filters for water purification, the use of RWH and pond-sand filters **(specific interventions to address gender-specific issues)**




Women were inspired to speak and integrate their concerns in local level adaptation planning and their implementation **(creation of space in public sphere to demand for their rights)**

Women's issue was prioritized toward identifying key advocacy issue of the SW Bangladesh: Government was forced to take a firm decision

Women groups/individuals were facilitated to pick up male partners when it came to marketing their produce **(creation of opportunities while respecting social norms)**







Acknowledging contributions from the following colleagues:

**Angie Daze**, CARE Canada

**Claudia Schaerer**, former Consultant, CARE Bangladesh

**Sharmin Neelormi**, Focal Point, GenderCC Asia

For further queries/questions/research reports:

**Centre for Global Change (CGC)**

<[ahsan.ua@gmail.com](mailto:ahsan.ua@gmail.com)>

