



# Advocacy and Networking **Our Actions, Our Inspiration, Our Strength and Our Plan**



# The Beginning



‘মাইনষের বাড়িতে আর  
থাকুম না, বেড়ীতেই থাকুম’-

কোহিনুর বেগম

- Started advocacy program in **1998** with **Sustainable Embankment Management Pilot Program (SEMPP)** in Bhola program,
- We had been able to show a low-cost embankment management technique through rehabilitation of river eroded community and their participation.



স্থানীয় প্রত্যাশালী ও দুর্ভুক্তিকারীদের অশতংপরতা থেকে রক্ষার ব্যবস্থা হিসেবে  
জনসংগঠনের উদ্যোগে জনসমাবেশ ও জনসচেতনতা কার্যক্রম

## Why Advocacy is needed

- To influence local, national and global policies
- To make positive changes sustainable
- To promote collaboration with policy makers and implementers
- To make inclusive policies and actions
- To enhance organizational images and recognition
- To promote human rights based just societies





## Our Achievements and Inspiration

- Government land distribution among landless
- Rehabilitation of climate displaced of Kutubdia Para ( Khoroskhoul R. Center)
- Bringing the country out of PRSP
- Stopping the Immunity to World Bank
- Compensation for the victim of river way accident ( Launch capsized 2003)
- Addition the issue of Climate Refugees in global discourse/UNFCCC discourses

## Our Achievements and Inspiration

- Cox's Bazar Rail line
- COAST has consultative status with ECOSOC
- COAST is actively participating in of PDD ( Body 31 country lead by UN, COAST is a member of the advisory committee ) , CPDE (body led by UN represented by CSO, private sector and states) COAST is official focal for CSO to Govt. in Bangladesh . Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC) (Constituted in view of UN General Council resolution. COAST represented NGOs/CSOs of aid recipient countries during 2000-22). In many UN bodies, COAST is representing even NGOs and of third world countries .



**COAST  
participation  
with issue and  
Networks  
(partial list)**

Issues	Networks
Humanitarian Response/volunteerism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA)</li> <li>• Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ANLAP)</li> </ul>
Refugee rights and emergency response	Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN)
Research and organizational development	Asia Pacific Research Network (APRN)
tax Justice, movement on debt	Asian Peoples' Movement on Debt and Development (APMDD)
Farmers and Fishers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World Forum of Fisher People (WFFP)</li> <li>• Asia Farmers Association</li> <li>• IPC for Food Sovereignty</li> </ul>



Seminar  
**Bridging the Gap:  
TRIPS and Enhanced Access to  
Medicines in Bangladesh**

20 July, 2023. Dhaka, Bangladesh



## Advocacy Vs Organizational Growth

- COAST advocacy is cost effective, no additional cost for staff
- All events are low cost, but huge media coverage and impacts
- Even after rigorous advocacy activities COAST has secured more than 25% annual growth
- COAST image among donors ,INGOs & UN is positive because we believe in inclusiveness and complementarity and localization .



# Challenges

- Ethical Erosion of NGOs-CSOs, hardly going well NGO/CSOs
- Power dynamics, Civil Society position in the power structure is obscure.
- Confusion, confrontation and conflicts among NGOS and CSOs.
- Relationship with the Government, INGOs, UN agencies are not going well all the time.
- Reducing funding trend



# Major Strategy for Future Plan

2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
COP -28	COP -29	COP -30	COP - 31	COP -32
Annual Conference of BDCSO	Revive the Safe River way movement	Revival of tax justice campaign	Revival of Social Watch Bangladesh	Issue based national and international advocacy
Review of IRWD committees and activities	Revival of farmers and fishers network	Searching partners for advocacy programs	Searching partners for advocacy programs	
Searching partners for advocacy programs	LDC graduation related activities	Issue based national and international advocacy	Issue based national and international advocacy	
Issue based national and international advocacy				

**Thank you**

