

Coastal Zone Policy 2005 Approved

The Government of Bangladesh has approved the 'Coastal Zone Policy 2005' at a Cabinet meeting on 17 January. The goal of this policy is 'to create conditions through integrated management, in which the reduction of poverty, development of sustainable livelihoods and the integration of the coastal zone into national processes can take place'. To realize this goal, emphasis will be given, on priority basis, for optimum utilization of natural resources, livelihood enhancement and area-based development.

Coastal zone is different from rest of the country in a number of aspects. A participatory and integrated approach holds the promise of reducing conflicts in the utilization of coastal resources and optimum exploitation of opportunities. The Government, therefore, has formulated this policy that would provide a general guidance to all concerned for the management and development of the coastal zone in a manner so that the coastal people are able to pursue their life and livelihoods in a secured and conducive environment.

The Coastal Zone Policy is a harmonized policy that transcends beyond sectoral perspectives. The policy initiates a process that commits different Ministries, Departments and Agencies to agree to harmonize and coordinate their activities in the coastal zone and elaborates the basis for a firm co-ordination mechanism.

The Government declares, through this policy, its intention of integrated coastal zone management following the principles of the coastal zone policy. Following this policy, all concerned Ministries, Agencies, Local Government Institutions, NGOs, private sector and the civil society will put their efforts for the development of the coastal zone. It is important to take into account the conflict of interest in using the resources and the explored activities that are responsible for the adverse impact on the environment.

The policy sets the establishment of a permanent 'Program Co-ordination Unit (PCU)' to facilitate ICZM as a process.

Formulation Process:

The Coastal Zone Policy 2005 was formulated through an extensive process of multi-level consultation over a period of more than two years. An outline of the policy was prepared and presented in October 2002. A preliminary draft was presented at a national seminar in May 2003. The first draft of the Coastal Zone Policy was presented and discussed at all 19 coastal districts during Sept.-October 2003. The draft, along the process, was posted on website for public viewing and comments. The draft was reviewed at the Task Force on Policy and Strategy; and discussed and endorsed at the inter-Ministerial Technical Committee and the inter-Ministerial Steering Committee during 2004.

Investment program is under preparation

Priority investment program for integrated coastal zone management is being formulated. Under this program, concept notes for doable projects will be prepared. These are prepared under a multi-agency framework. Agencies which have so far participated in this process are BWDB, LGED, DPHE, DoF, Forest

Department, DAE, BPC, BRDB, Local Government Division, DWA, Ministry of Land, DLS, DMB, Bangladesh Meteorological Department, SPAARSO, SRDI, GSB, SoB, DoSS, Bangladesh Navy and NGOs. WARPO is responsible for overall liaison and coordination.

District Information Booklets

Information booklets (in Bangla) separately on nineteen coastal districts, such as, Bagerhat, Barguna, Barisal, Bhola, Chandpur, Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Feni, Gopalganj, Jessore, Jhalkati, Khulna, Lakshmipur, Narail, Noakhali, Patuakhali, Pirojpur, Satkhira and Shariatpur, prepared by the ICZMP project is almost ready for publication. Entitled as "District Information", this booklet contains summary description on history, natural environment, people, economic activities, problems and prospects of each district. This has been prepared to raise public awareness at the local level, to facilitate free flow of information and to enable local stakeholders to participate in planning.

PDO officials visited Southeast

A team from PDO-ICZMP toured some areas in the southeast during 6-9 January. On 6 January evening, Team Leader of the ECFC project briefed the progress of the project. On 7 January, the team visited St. Martin's Island and held discussion with local people. On 8 January, Mr. Jahirul Islam Jewel of the Coastal and Wetland Biodiversity Management Project, an initiative of the Department of Environment, met the PDO team and gave a briefing on the project and the problems of the island.

2nd Revised TAPP approved

The Finance & Planning Minister has approved the second revised TAPP of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan (ICZMP) project on 26 January 2005. Total estimated cost of the project is 209 million Taka. This project, led by WARPO under the Ministry of Water Resources, was initiated in February 2002. The project closes in December 2005.

Renewable energy potential in St. Martin's Island

A lecture session on renewable energy potential in St. Martin's Island was held at the PDO meeting room on 7 February 2005. Mr. Tazmilur Rahman, Manager of the Sustainable Rural Power Project of LGED was the main speaker. He presented a description on the possible quantum of renewable energy sources like solar, wind and organic (from coconut), problems and prospects. In view of the demand for and supply of energy in St. Martin's Island and its isolation from the national power grid, participants discussed about the feasibility of taking up special program for the island.



Seminar on the role of mass media

A seminar on the role of mass media in coastal development was held at Barguna on 23 December 2004 to celebrate the silver jubilee of Barguna Press Club. Expert of the ICZMP project Mr. Md. Shahjahan Mian presented the keynote speech. Advocate Abul Kalam Azad of Barguna Press Club chaired the seminar, while the local Member of the Parliament, Mr. Md. Delwar Hossain attended as chief guest. Among the participants were noted writer Selina Hossain, Superintendent of Police and local journalists. Participants recommended for setting up a community radio station at Barguna, developing Sonar Char and Sonbungia as tourist spot, storage and marketing of fish and ensuring participation of all in development activities.



Indicative Coastal Land Zoning: 8 Zones demarcated

Coastal zone has multiple land use. Land use in the coastal zone as well as in the country is mainly agrarian. Shrimp culture is extensively done in the southwest region. Chittagong is prominent for port and commercial activities, while Sundarban is known for its forest.

Population of the coastal zone was 8 million in 1901. This increased to 35 million in 2001 and will grow over 55 million in 2050. Use of land is increasing for habitation, while availability of land for economic activities is decreasing.

In response to global demand, shrimp culture started extensively in our coastal zone two decades ago. Once shrimp culture was confined to only 7-8 upazilas. Now bagda cultivation extended to 49 upazilas and golda in 70 upazilas. As a result, agriculture and forest areas are under tremendous pressure. Moreover, the need for land has increased for tourism, urban areas and industries. The government policy on fisheries, water, agriculture and land use policy 2001, as well as the coastal zone policy 2005 put emphasis on land zoning.

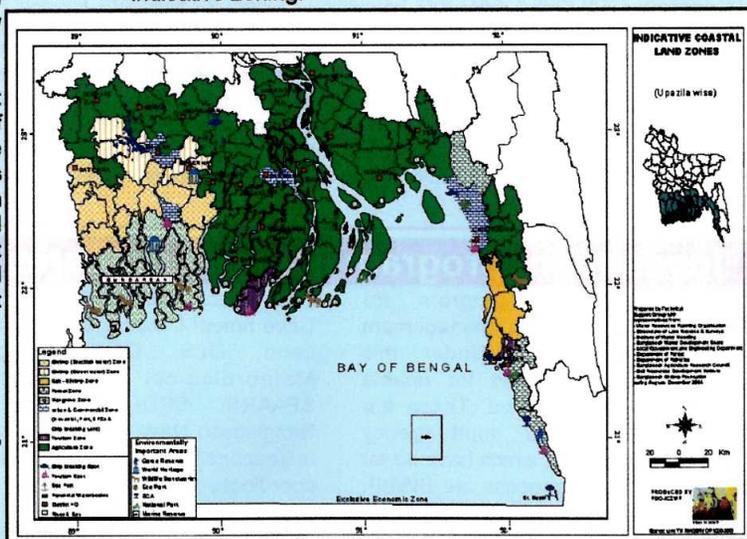
After some preliminary discussion with several government and non-government organizations including the Ministry of Land, PDO-ICZMP became aware of growing interest of the government on land zoning. A national consultation was held on 2 August 2004 where it was agreed to embark on upazila-based land zoning and formation of a technical support group comprising representatives from eight agencies. Through extensive discussion at the national and local levels, an indicative land zoning demarcating eight zones was agreed.

These are:

- shrimp (brackish water),
- shrimp (sweet water),
- salt-shrimp,
- forest,
- mangrove,
- urban and commercial,
- tourism, and
- agriculture.

Each upazila has been mapped in one zone based on its principal land use. For example, Batiaghata, Paikgachha, Asashuni, Satkhira Sadar, Kaliganj, Debhata, Bagerhat Sadar, Rampal and Morelganj upazilas have been categorized as shrimp (brackish water) zone, while Cox's Bazar Sadar and Kalapara are bracketed as tourist zone. This indicative zoning will be used as a guide to detailed zoning exercise to be undertaken as elaborated in the land use policy 2001.

Three local level consultations were also organized in three coastal districts to receive opinion on indicative zoning. These were held at Patuakhali (15 January), Khulna (18 January) and Cox's Bazar (5 March). Deputy Commissioners chaired the respective workshops, while representatives of DoF, FD, DAE, BWDB, Mongla Port Authority, local administration, NGOs and mass media participated. They endorsed the indicative zoning.



Meeting of the Land Use Committee held: Land Zoning Presented

The Committee for monitoring of the implementation of the National Land Use Policy 2001 was held on 13 February 2005 at the Ministry of Land. The meeting was attended by Hon'ble Mr. Tariqul Islam, Minister for Environment & Forests; Hon'ble Barrister Nazmul Huda, Minister for Communications; Hon'ble Mr. MA Kabir Talukder, State Minister for Finance & Planning and Hon'ble Advocate Ruhul Quddus Talukder (Dulu), Deputy Minister for Land. The meeting was chaired by Hon'ble Ukil Abdus Satter, State Minister for Land. Among others, Secretaries and high officials of several ministries attended. In the discussion, emphasis was laid on optimum utilization of land. Team Leader of ICZMP project Dr. M Rafiqul Islam made a presentation on land zoning in the coastal zone. Recommendations to initiate zoning law and detailed land zoning have been taken.

Draft Coastal Development Strategy (CDS): Highlights

- CDS is the linking pin between the CZPo and concrete interventions. It prepares for coordinated priority actions and arrangements for their implementation through selecting strategic priorities and setting targets.
- CDS prepares for moving away from 'business as usual' in the management of the coastal zone. It attempts to unlock the potentials.
- CDS is a homegrown document and presents aspirations of the coastal people: developed through an extensive process of consultation, review and endorsement.
- It is fully aligned to 'National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction'. It is a prescription of 'local governance' of the coastal zone.
- CDS takes into account the emerging trend: increased urbanization, changing land use, declining land & water resources and increased visibility of climate change impacts.
- CDS takes into account the strength of the coastal zone: untapped and/or less explored resources.
- CDS planning horizon for specific actions/interventions is 5 years to feed to PRSP Policy Agenda based on three-year rolling plans.
- CDS is not a single generic and comprehensive recipe-approach for the whole of coast. It is a targeted process and the need for targeting is identified with respect to:
 - * regions (for example: exposed coastal zone / districts; SW region/Ganges dependent area; Chittagong coast; islands);
 - * disadvantaged groups (including: women and children, fisher, rural wage laborers, erosion victims, urban wage laborers and small farmers as priority groups);
 - * issues (for example: shrimp cultivation, land zoning, and groundwater management); and
 - * opportunities (for example: tourism, renewable energy, marine fisheries)
- Eight strategic priorities, evolved through a consultation process, guides interventions and investments in the coastal zone:
 - * ensuring fresh and safe water availability (in the context of regional water resources management)
 - * optimizing use of coastal lands
 - * promoting economic growth emphasizing non-farm rural employment
 - * sustainable and equitable management of natural resources:
 - exploiting untapped and less explored opportunities
 - * improving livelihood conditions of people; specially women
 - * environmental conservation
 - * empowerment through knowledge management
 - * creating an enabling institutional environment
- CDS is translated into actions that are complementary to ongoing development activities; they are of four types:
 - * mainstreaming through promoting ICZM and supporting CZ development agencies;
 - * creating the enabling environment both at national and local levels.
 - * preparing and implementing integrated and multi-agency interventions under the ICZM umbrella; and
 - * supporting private sector investment
- Mainstreaming through promoting ICZM and supporting CZ development agencies. Especially through: (i) national planning; (ii) implementing single agency projects; and (iii) addressing crosscutting national issues like gender, environment.
- Creating the enabling environment of 'governance', based on models of good practices, to implement the multi-sector and mainstreaming actions.
 - * The Program Coordination Unit (PCU) as the core facilitating and co-coordinating platform of the ICZM process.
 - * Support structure consists of: an inter-ministerial Steering Committee; the Technical Committee; task forces and the Focal Points.
 - * Elements of the enabling institutional environment are promoted through: harmonization of national policies and strategies and coordinated implementation at national and local levels; incorporating NGOs.
- The PCU is the permanent GoB Unit with 15 member GoB Departmental Experts deputed from different ministries as the core team. Ministry of Water Resources is the lead Ministry and the Water Resources Planning Organization is the lead agency of this inter-ministerial set-up.
- Each of integrated and multi-agency interventions, in the form of Concept Note, is planned and formulated by consultation among more than one agency. Concept Notes, together, make a Priority Investment Program (PIP) and is considered as the operational arm of the CDS.
- Private Sector investments are key to coastal development: creating employment and services. Conducive investment climate in line with 'Bangladesh Private Sector Infrastructure Guidelines 2004' targeting less explored and untapped resources. Linkage to existing Facility funds
- Along with increased budgetary allocation for the coastal zone, setting up two new Funds have been proposed.
- An Integrated Coastal Zone Management Program (2006-2010) has been prepared to realize this. This program has 8 components supporting three major activities: support to PCU, piloting at district level and implementation of the PIP.
- On a regular basis developments in the coastal zone will be monitored and assessed against the development objectives formulated in the coastal zone policy and the coastal development strategy. This includes information on the inputs into the development process and the outputs and outcome.
- Implementation of the CDS will start from January 2006, with establishment and operationalization of the PCU.

Steps in CDS formulation	
Final draft of the coastal zone policy	December 2003
Preliminary initiative to draft CDS	July 2004
Draft outline, discussion with focal points	July-October 2004
National and regional consultation on draft outline	October 2004
Draft CDS	February 2005
Consultation on draft CDS at district/local level	March 2005
Consultation at other levels	March-April 2005
Final draft	June 2005

Opinion sought on Strategic Steps

The Government has approved the 'Coastal Zone Policy 2005' recently that provides a general guidance to all concerned for sustainable management and development of the coastal zone. At present, a Coastal Development Strategy (CDS) is being formulated. We have already obtained your preliminary feedback on the outline

of the CDS through one national and four regional workshops held in October 2004. We intend to seek your opinion at the district level in March 2005.

We seek your opinion on strategic steps for the development of the coastal zone. Your feedback will contribute immensely in the CDS formulation.

READERS' CORNER



Publish stories on women's livelihood

Greetings! I like to know more about people's livelihood, climate, and physical environment, especially, livelihood of women around Sundarban. Please oblige me by sending your publications.

Ms. Asia Sultana
Member
14 No. Fingri Union Parishad
Satkhira Sadar
Satkhira

Send publications regularly

Greetings from Polli Chetona! I participated in the regional consultation on CDS on 9 October 2004 and I congratulate you for taking the task of preparing a long-

term strategy for the coastal zone. We like to receive all your publications.

Md. Anisur Rahman
Polli Chetona
Joradia, Bangdoha
Satkhira

Organize a program

Thanks for sending your bulletin. Banshkhalia is a coastal upazila. This area was devastated in the cyclone of 1991. The upazila is known for agriculture, fisheries and salt production. We request you to organize a program in our area.

Md. Akter Hossain
Chairman
Shilkup Union Parishad
Banshkhalia, Chittagong

Send Coast News regularly

Rural Poverty Eradication Foundation is proving training to the beneficiaries on leadership development, social rights, gender issue, adult education, aquaculture, livestock rearing, agriculture, etc. The Foundation has a team of skilled trainers. Coast news is helping the knowledge base of our trainers. To understand to voice of the coastal people, please send the Coast news regularly.

Md. Rashiduzzaman
Regional Training Manager
Rural Poverty Eradication
Foundation
Munshipara
Satkhira

Coastal Zone of Bangladesh

Three indicators have been considered for determining the landward boundaries of the coastal zone of Bangladesh. These are: influence of tidal waters, salinity intrusion and cyclones/storm surges. Based on these indicators, 19 districts are delineated in the coastal zone. The districts are Bagerhat, Barguna, Barisal, Bhola, Chandpur, Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Feni, Gopalganj, Jessore, Jhalkati, Khulna, Lakshmipur, Narail, Noakhali, Patuakhali, Pirojpur, Satkhira and Shariatpur. The districts are considered in their entirety including all upazilas/thanas. The exclusive economic zone (EEZ) is regarded as the seaward coastal zone.



Information on PDO-ICZMP

Bangladesh, the Netherlands and the UK. An inter-ministerial steering committee and a technical committee guide this initiative. Ministry of Water Resources is its lead ministry and Water Resources Planning Organization (WARPO) is the lead agency.

The project's goal is to create conditions in which the reduction of poverty, development of sustainable livelihoods and the integration of the coastal zone in the national processes can take place. Its intended outputs are:

- * Coastal zone policy
- * Coastal development strategy
- * Priority investment program
- * Enhancing livelihood capacity
- * Enabling institutional environment
- * Integrated knowledge base

Our recent publications

WP033	Inventory of Projects & Initiatives in the Coastal Zone	December 2004
WP034	Institutional Arrangements for ICZM: Models of Good Practices	December 2004
WP035	Knowledge Management Approaches and Social Communication	December 2004
WP036	Approaches for Mainstreaming Gender	December 2004

Previous PDO-ICZMP publications are available in the website.

Editor : Mohiuddin Ahmad
Typing : Md. Nuruzzaman Mia
Layout : Rounakul Islam

Contact:

PDO-ICZMP
Saimon Center (5th Floor), House 4/A
Road 22, Gulshan 1, Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh
Tel : 880-2-989 2787 & 882 7681
Fax : 880-2-882 6614
E-mail : pdo@iczmdbd.org
Web : www.iczmpbangladesh.org



STAMP