



ESS in Plan and Practice: **Community Knowledge and Understanding on ESS**

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Environmental and Social Standard (ESS) and Safeguards refers of the GCF refers to **assessment** of environmental and social **risks and impacts** and **mitigating/addressing (management)** the risks and impacts with **required policies, plans and measures.....**

WHY; to ensure that;

- Labour and working conditions **and safe, sound and healthy**
- Community health, safety and security **are not hampered or compromised**
- Land acquisition and involuntary resettlement **are planned, well informed, appropriate and do not violate human rights**
- Biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources **are ensured**
- Indigenous peoples rights **are not violated rather respected and preserved**
- Cultural heritage **are preserved**

Environmental and Social Standard (ESS)



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Performance Standard	Objectives
Labour and Working Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fair treatment, non-discrimination, equal opportunity- Good worker–management relationship- Comply with national employment and labour laws- Protect workers, in particular the vulnerable ones- Promote safety and health- Avoid use of forced labour or child labour
Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Avoid, minimise or reduce project-related pollution- Sustainable use of resources, including energy, water- Reduced project-related greenhouse gas emissions

Environmental and Social Standard (ESS)



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Performance Standard	Objectives
Community Health, Safety and Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- To anticipate and avoid adverse impacts on the health and safety of the affected community- To safeguard personnel and property in accordance with relevant human rights principles
Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Avoid, minimise adverse social and economic impacts from land acquisition or restrictions on land use- Improve or restore livelihoods and living standards- Improve living conditions among displaced persons by providing<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Adequate housing(ii) Security of tenure

Environmental and Social Standard (ESS)



Performance Standard	Objectives
Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Protection and conservation of biodiversity- Maintenance of benefits from ecosystem services- Promotion of sustainable management of living natural resources- Integration of conservation needs and development priorities
Indigenous Peoples	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ensure full respect for indigenous peoples (i) Human rights, dignity, aspirations (ii) Livelihoods (iii) Culture, knowledge, practices- Avoid/minimise adverse impacts- Sustainable and culturally appropriate development benefits and opportunities- Free, prior and informed consent in certain circumstances

Environmental and Social Standard (ESS)



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Performance Standard	Objectives
Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Protection and preservation of cultural heritage- Promotion of equitable sharing of cultural heritage benefits

Environmental and Social Standard (ESS)



Project type: Enhancing adaptive capacities of the coastal communities through alternative livelihoods development

Risk	Category	Level of impact	Probability
Expansion of crab farming will exacerbate already depleted wild stock of crab-let; and create an incentive for the communities to enter the protected mangrove areas for collection of wild fry with impacts on biodiversity	Environmental and Social	Medium (5.1-20% of project value)	Medium

Mitigation Measures: Crab hatcheries will be established as part of the livelihoods component of the project in order to produce crab fry to support its farming

The project includes a component on awareness training for the community people and a code of practice that wild fry is not used.

Overarching Standard

Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts, includes:

- **Policy** (or equivalent doc.)
- **Process** for identifying risks
- Management programme
- Organisational **capacity and competency**
- Process for **monitoring and evaluation**
- External **communication**

Objectives

- Identifying social risks & impacts
- **Adopt mitigation hierarchy**: anticipate; avoid; minimise; compensate or offset
- **Improve performance** through an Environmental and Social Safeguard System.
- **Engagement** with affected communities /stakeholders throughout funding cycle.

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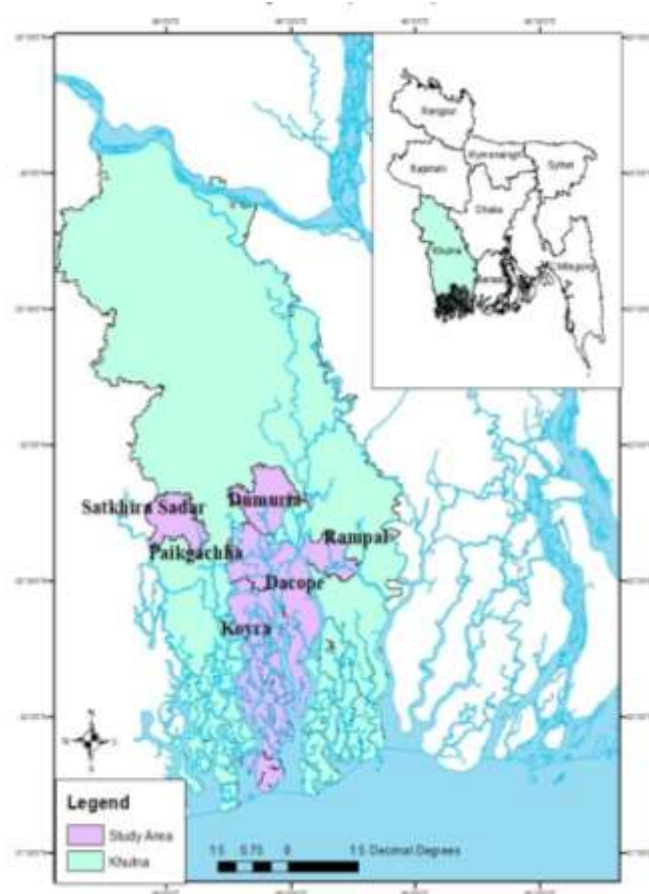
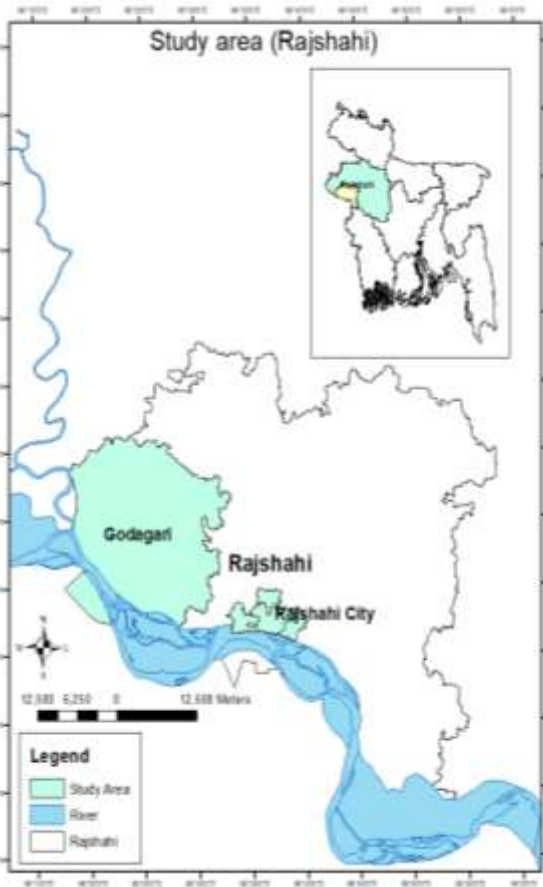


3 FGDs:

Godagari, Rajshahi
Paikgacha, Khulna
Shyamnagar, Khulna

KEY CONCERNS:

- To understand the **level of engagement** of the local stakeholders in the project cycle e.g. planning, design and implementation
- To understand whether people/project beneficiaries **are informed on the ES risk and impacts** of the project
- To understand how the **how the ES risks and impacts are captured** and how the response measures are **identified and planned**.
- To understand whether the project beneficiaries could **access to the project specific information**
- To understand whether the **grievance mechanism is in place** and project beneficiaries could comminate/file their grievance.



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KEY UNDESANDING:

- Local stakeholders **don't know about their role/rights** to play in project planning, design and implementation
- People also have **little understanding on the requirements** of ESS to be considered in the project cycle
- Their participation is **either ignored or denied** by the authorities involved in the project design and implementation
- They also **don't know how to get involved** in the project processes relevant to the development of a particular project
- Country has RTI Act, but not **in practice**. They **don't get project specific information** despite repeated attempt.
- They don't know about the **grievance mechanism**, people might not file any complain out of the **fear of being harassed afterward**.

*Paikgacha, Khulna (Top)
Godagari, Rajshahi (Bottom)*

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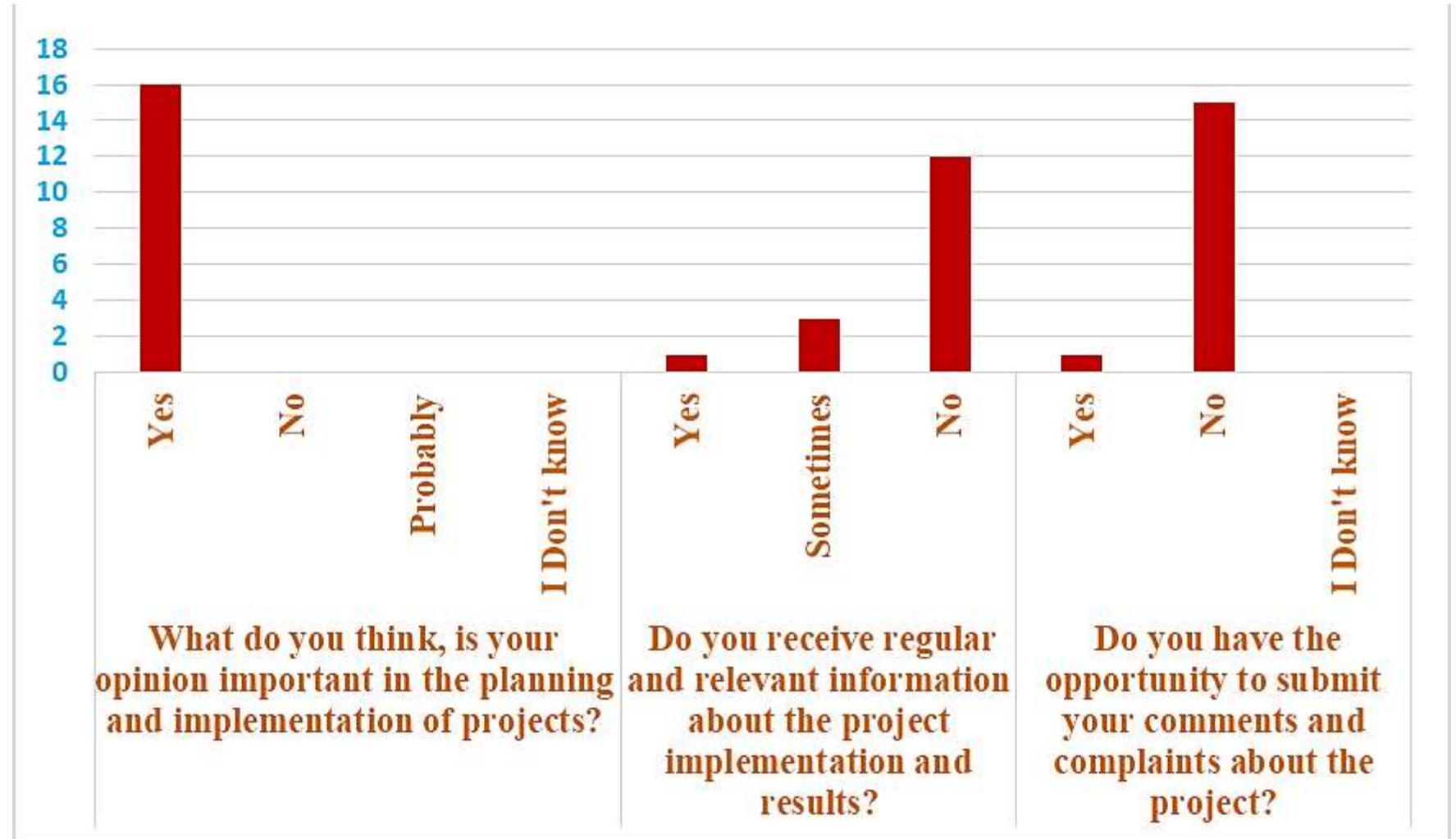
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“Any entity carrying out a project, however beneficial or harmful, **doesn't usually communicate** the ESS perspectives to the project beneficiaries and stakeholders...

...‘there has hardly been any program devoted to **capacitating the people** on this standard’.



Godagari, Rajshahi

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'Local people have **never been consulted** on the projects e.g., river dredging, roads/culvert construction, or approving brick kilns etc., which have serious implication on the environment.....

There are many evidences of **people's protest to stop such deleterious activities**, especially the brick kilns.

Paikgacha, Khulna

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KEY RECOMMENDATIONS :

- A robust **capacity cum awareness building programs** are required to make the communities realize the importance of ensuring ESS in the project cycle.
- A formal **framework for ensuring local people's participation** in the project formulation, implementation, and evaluation, with a strong role of the local government as the facilitative role
- Involve the local stakeholders **in designing the checklist/ formats for assessing environmental and social risks** and impacts. It's shouldn't be appointing a consulting firm to do such assessments

Thank you for your attention!