



SUFAL FACT SHEET

Number 01 | JANUARY 2022

SUFAL Project

Sustainable Forests & Livelihoods (SUFAL) project is being implemented in three different landscapes, i.e., Hill, Plain land Sal and Coastal eco-system. It envisages restoration of degraded and denuded forest ecosystems including Protected Areas (PA) and conservation of biodiversity through sustainable forest management practices for enhancing ecosystem services, livelihoods opportunities, carbon sequestration, climate change resilience and improving PA networks. The SUFAL project has plantation and forest conservation programs in all the three landscapes through collaborative forest management including alternative income generating activities for the forest dependent communities. It is also supporting for endangered wildlife species conservation and establishing additional tree cover in Tree Outside Forests. This project is directly contributing towards achieving SDG goal, Glasgow leaders' declaration on forests & land use.

Project Objective

The overall objective of the project is to improve collaborative forest management and increase access to alternative income generation activities for forest dependent communities in targeted sites.

Specific Objectives

- To improve organizational effectiveness by strengthening institutions, information systems and providing necessary training to forest officials and staffs;
- To strengthen collaborative forests and Protected Areas management for enhancing forest restoration, wildlife protection, biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services;
- To increase access to alternative income generating activities (AIGAs) including forest extension service & planting trees in Trees Outside Forests (ToF) areas to reduce forest exploitation and improving environment;
- To monitor forest restoration and enhanced tree cover in the ToF.



Project at a glance

Duration

5 Years (July 2018 to June 2023)

Project Cost (BDT)

Total : 150272.17 Lac
GoB : 3272.17 Lac
PA (RPA) : 147000.00 Lac

Project Area

Division : 8
District : 28
Forest Division : 26
Upazila : 167
Village : 600

Beneficiaries

40000

Forest Types

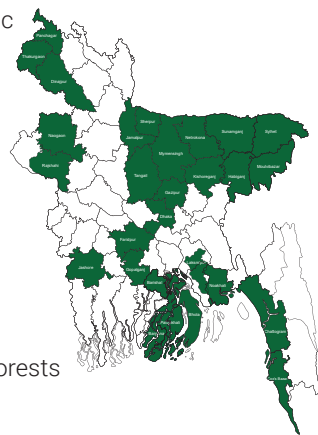
Hill, Plain land Sal and Coastal Forests

Implementing Agency

Bangladesh Forest Department

Sponsoring Ministry

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change



Project Target

- Restoration of 52,720 ha. degraded and denuded forest lands
- Afforestation of 24,880 ha. accreted coastal areas
- Improvement of 2,500 ha. wildlife habitat and 1,330 ha. corridor plantation through fodder and fruit bearing tree species
- Enhancement of wildlife and PA management activities in 32 PAs
- Create AIGA facilities for 40,000 forest dependent households from 600 FCVs/VCFs
- Training for 11,600 community people
- Establishment of 3,460 km Strip plantations on marginal land
- Provide training to 1,159 forestry personnel, 2,000 private nursery owners and 1000 sawmill owners
- Conservation of 8 endangered wildlife species

Collaborative Forest Management



Collaborative Forest Management is a participatory forest management and conservation strategy involving Government agencies and forest dependent communities including other stakeholders. It is an arrangement in which local community and government agency share roles, responsibilities and benefits. Under the collaborative forest management, all sorts of project activities will be implemented in the Forest Beat landscapes, where project

beneficiaries are selected from adjacent villages within 1-3 km radius of Beat boundaries. The selected villages are known as Forest Conservation Village (VCF) consisting of approximately 200-500 households. The forest dependent communities are organized into village level institutions named as Collaborative Forest Management Committee (CFMC) having 5 sub-committees such as Forest Protection & Conservation Committee (FPCC), Social Audit Committee (SAC), Finance & Account Committee (FAC), Procurement Committee (PC) and Village Credit & Saving Committee (VCSC). Collaborative forest management is guided by the Community Operation Manual (COM). Project has engaged 07 NGOs in these activities and identified 514 FCVs/VCFs.

Forest Restoration

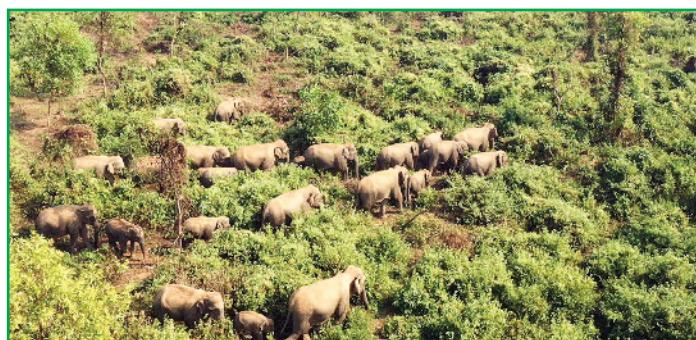


SUFAL Project has been designed to address objectives of 7th FYP (2015-2020) & it continues in addressing the 8th FYP (2021-2025) that envisages biodiversity conservation and restoration of existing forests adhering to the principles of sustainable management and climate resilience as well as enhancement of land areas under forest/tree cover. SUFAL Project has adopted various approaches of afforestation & reforestation & restored about 29,765 ha degraded and denuded forests as well as improvement of wildlife habitats and corridors. Additionally, mangrove afforestation completed in 16,405 ha in accreted coastal land. The key restoration approaches include: (i) Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) (ii) Enrichment Planting (iii) re/afforestation with slow and fast-growing indigenous species etc. Furthermore, under planting of Bamboo, Cane, Murta and Medicinal herbs are also introduced on the basis of the local site conditions and interest of local communities especially for increasing their livelihood opportunities through enhanced ecosystem services. The project also contributes in conservation of rare and endangered flora and fauna. Site-specific planning (SSP) with on-ground survey and community consultation is being conducted prior to afforestation & restoration interventions.

SUFAL Innovation Grant (SIG)

SUFAL project has provisioned for Innovation Grants (SIG) for research on forest, nursery, wood and non-wood processing technologies, biodiversity conservation, wildlife management & climate change in line with the objective of the project. This research window hosts academia, GoB officials, students and other local institutions. The first round of SIG awarded to 10 research proposals and 16 research proposals are selected in the second round of SIG. Research outcomes are envisaged to contribute in better enhancement of wildlife conservation, sustainable forest management, collaborative forest management and help policy makers and resource managers. SIG grant is guided by an Innovation Grant Manual (IGM). Research Proposal Evaluation Committee (RPEC) and Grants Review Committee (GRC) are managing the research works.

Wildlife Conservation



Wildlife conservation is the endeavour to protect the endangered plant and animal species, along with their natural habitats. So SUFAL project has completed 1,350 ha habitat plantation & 920 ha corridor with fodder plantation, strengthened co-management in 32 Protected Areas (PAs) and undertaken species conservation program for avifauna, shark & Ray, Elephant, Dolphin, Vulture, Spoon-billed Sandpiper etc., preparation of Red List of plants and control strategy for alien invasive species.

Forest Management Using Digital Technology

SUFAL Project has developed digital platform using ODK collect for Site Specific Planning (SSP) of forest restoration sites. SSP has been completed for 44,680 ha of restoration sites up to January 2022. 40,000 household of Forest dependent communities of collaborative forest management will be brought under similar digital platform for the online operation of AIGA activities. SUFAL project is financing for this platform development, capacity building and necessary equipment supply for the operation of this system.

Co-operation Through MOU

SUFAL Project has signed MOU with the following agencies for cooperating capacity building of private nursery owner and sawmill owners and tissue culture technology transfer, infrastructure development and red listing of plants and alien invasive species control strategy development.

- Bangladesh Forest Research Institute (BFRI)
- Public Works Department (PWD)
- Bangladesh National Herbarium (BNH)

Environmental and Social Safeguard

SUFAL Project has developed following documents to ensure environmental and social safeguard for the project activities. Ethnic people, involuntary resettlement, citizen engagement, grievance redress mechanism and gender balance are the major areas of social safeguard while environmental assessment, natural habitats, pest management and forests are the areas of environmental safeguard under the project.

- Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)
- Pest Management Plan (PMP)
- Small Ethnic Community Development Framework (SECDF)
- Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF)
- Resettlement Process Framework (RPF)
- Community Operations Manual (COM), Part I, II, III and IV

For more information

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