

Proposal

On

Income Generation Activities in the context of supporting continued education of indigenous children

Cultivation stages:



Cutting and cleaning jungles



tilling the land



Crop collection



Crop Zinger

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Project Proposal

1. Project Title: Income Generation Activities in the context of supporting continued education of indigenous children

2. Funding period: Two years (April 2011 –March 2013)

3. Project Address: Hill Child Home, Tongkhang para, Kuhalong, Bandarban Sadar, Bandarban Hill District, Bangladesh E-mail:mongyeo.childhome@yahoo.com

4. Implementing organization: Hill Child Home (detailed description-Annexed)

5. Total cost of the project and the amount requested from the donor:

The total cost of the project is

a) Purchase of land Tk 250,000 including registration

b) Zinger cultivation Tk 585,000/

c) Turmeric cultivation Tk 241,250/

Totaling Tk 1,076,250 (Euro 1= Tk 90/). Refer to the budget annexed for details

6. Introduction to CHT (Chittagong Hill Tract):

Bangladesh is one of the world's poorest countries, with an estimated population of 160 million people, which makes it the world's most densely populated country. Moving into the new millennium, Bangladesh faces many challenges but also have many hopes. The people of Bangladesh are her greatest assets. Human resource development therefore becomes the key to survive and succeed in the next century.

The Chittagong Hill Tracts Region of the country is an area of 13,148 kms, where most

of the indigenous people live in mainly hilly terrain. The total population of CHT is 974,445 (as per 1991 census). CHT is situated in the extreme southeast part of Bangladesh and comprises the three administrative districts of Rangamati, Khagrachhari and Bandarban. Approximately one million people live in this region. According to the 1991 census 51% are tribal and 49% non-tribal. Tribal groups include the Chakma, Marma, Tanchangya, Tripura, Mro, Bawm, Khyang, Pankhu, Khumi, Lushai, and Chak. They are mainly Buddhists, Hindus, animists and Christians, while the non-tribal groups are predominantly Bengali-speaking Muslims. Each community belongs to its own traditional culture and custom, language and lifestyle, roles and rituals, which distinguishes from one another. They have learnt Bengali language for communicating with the mainstream population, but they speak in their own language among themselves.

The construction of the Kaptai Dam over the Karnaphuli River during 1959 – '63 resulted in the inundation of 54,000 acres of much of the best agricultural land in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, displacing nearly 100,000 people, mostly Chakmas, from their lands and homes. There was inadequate compensation and insufficient rehabilitation of these internally displaced persons, which created lot of discontent and conflict. At the same time government forestry programmes put about 24% of the total area of the CHT under reserve forest, limiting the indigenous people from practicing their traditional forms of agriculture, locally known as Jhum(slash and burn practices).

To aggravate the situation, government sponsored settlement programs between 1979 and 1984 and encouraged people from the plain lands to settle in the CHT causing increased pressure on scarce land and leading to tension and conflicts between the settlers and the indigenous people over land rights. Due to this situation, the indigenous people fled to the remote areas of CHT. Many violent clashes resulted and thousands of tribal/ indigenous people fled to India as refugees. The violence turned into armed conflict with the government, and military and para-military camps were set up all over the CHT. The tribal/indigenous people organized themselves into armed groups.

After a two-decade armed conflict a peace accord was signed in December 1997, and the tribal/indigenous rebels who fought a campaign of resistance in the CHT for over 20

years, surrendered their arms. The Shanti Bahini then became the Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) a new political party in the CHT. Most of the refugees who had fled to India during the conflict returned to Bangladesh.

The people of CHT face major constraints in several aspects of livelihood security, including health, food, income, and community participation, as well as education.

Sever food shortage occurs for certain periods in the year – especially during the rainy season – when food stocks finish and employment opportunities are scarce. During these lean periods people eat less, consume wild food from the forest, and at times even face starvation. Many families are then forced to borrow money from the money lenders at very high interest rates to buy food. As they have very few assets, they have nothing to sell, except their labour and crops in advance.

Food scarcity is linked to low productivity from the traditional sources of livelihood in the CHT - 'jhum' – and collection of forest resources. Conflict over land and forest resources with the larger Bengalee community and the armed conflict with the government have limited people's access to productive lands and forest areas.

The conflict has been a major cause of deprivation in the region, leading to stagnation in the development process. Compared to other regions of Bangladesh, the CHT population has access to very few modern amenities such as hospitals, schools, or institutions. Roads and other infrastructures are in very poor condition, making the villages inaccessible for normal transport. Villages do not have electricity. Health and administrative services are far from the villages, and there are no functional extension services. Many of the communities are very remote and practically isolated. Walking over kilometers of hilly terrain is the only way to reach some of these villages.

The villages in general are in very poor condition. They do not have proper sanitation systems or any safe drinking water. Most households do not have latrines. Most of the people do not have registered cultivable lands. In most villages, even the homesteads are not registered in people's names. Generally, very few people own property or

assets.

Low level of literacy in the region is another major constraint. People have very little formal education. Although enrollment among the younger generation has increased, attendance is very irregular and there is a high drop-out rate, especially for girls. The low levels of basic and higher education is a major underlying cause for the lack of knowledge, skills and practice required to uplift the communities into modern functioning societies. Rapid development in this sector is critical for changing this grim situation in the region.

7. Rationale/Reasons for the project:

Indigenous children are among the most vulnerable and marginalized groups in CHT. The education is a dream to them. The transport system is very tough to attend the educational institutions. They live in the remotest places of hilly areas from where it is difficult to attend the schools. They have to cross many bushes and forests. The girl children face many difficulties. Many a times they are sexually harassed on their way to attend schools. Many discontinued. Hence they have little access to education. Many are reported and many remained unreported.

When indigenous children are allowed to live in peace and security and free from discrimination, they have an enormous potential to contribute not only to their own communities but also to national and global society.

It is now all concern that in today's world, every one must read and write, calculate, think critically and be able to acquire and use knowledge to compete in an increasingly knowledge based society. Access to education is a human right and absolutely a fundamental right in overcoming the vicious cycle of poverty and social injustice.

Realizing the importance of education, the organization, Hill Child Home has managed to set up an orphanage for students of classes 1 to X with accommodation, coaching and other facilities with financial assistance of some well -wishers of the ethnic communities.

Among them students of classes 1- V attend nearby Govt. Primary School, students of classes VI to VIII attend Hill Child Home School (Junior High School) under management of Orphanage) while students of classes IX to S. S. C attend school at

Bandarban sadar schools . All the expenses are borne by the Orphanage.

The community has also donated land (two acres) for orphanage and schools. The poor families of some kids contribute a little in cash and kinds. There are 90(girls-29) students now and five teachers (female-2). The figure is gradually increasing More parents are placing their request to enroll their kids to the orphanages. Last year (2010) it was 70. It started its journey with 30 students in the year 2006.

Gradually the expenses are at incremental rate. We do not get required amount of money to meet the expenses. It becomes difficult to feed the children with required amount of food and to meet up other expenses. We are trying our best to collect contribution from other sources. In our Management meeting and community sharing sessions the issues were raised many times formally and informally. It was ventilated if we can undertake some income generating activities to contribute the earnings against the total budget of the institution and gradually lessen the burden from the donors' shoulders and meet the increased demand of the poor communities. The undertakings like zinger, turmeric, fish cultivation of local varieties and the like were some of the examples and these are much produced locally, feasible and profit making.

In formulating the project, there were Focus Group Discussions with local people; some of them are directly involved in such activities. The return on investment has been prepared in a participatory process (referred to the budget).It may be a beginning with zinger, and turmeric cultivation.

For this purpose the organization will buy a piece of land (five acres) for Taka 2.5 lac (0.25 million). It will be an asset for the organization with gradual increase of its price.

The calculation (refers to the enclosed budget) made shows that zinger cultivation in the first year incurs an expense of Tk 585,000/ and sales proceeds of Tk 1, 250,000/

That is, the return on investment without deducting the cost of the land is Tk 665, 000/

For cultivation of turmeric in the second year the calculation shows that it accounts for an expense of Tk Tk241, 250/ and sales proceeds of Tk 625,000/ That is, the return on investment is Tk Tk383, 750/.

The return on investment without deducting the cost of the land (3-2) =Tk383, 750/

Local experiences reveal that cultivation of the same crop in the consecutive years does not bring much return compared to the expenses made. So is the rotation. Thus such practice of cultivation will continue in upcoming years.

8. Project Objectives:

Long term:

To make the institution self- sustained and to meet the ever increasing demand of education of indigenous children (education is a fundamental right)

Short term:

To partially contribute to the total expenses of the institution

9. Project Staff: There will be no extra staff required for the purpose. The Executive Director and other teachers will supervise the project activities by turn.

10. Impact of the project:

As a result of this intervention, it is ensured that the institution (orphanage and the school) will continue its activities and thus the children of the indigenous community will have the opportunity to prosecute their studies. Through the project the Hill Child Home expects to see the following impact in the life of target people:

- The target people will have opportunity to get their children educated.
- They can bring good days for their families by enhancing their living standard
- As a result of their knowledge, the mortality rate of the target people is expected to be reduced.
- They will be more visible in management and leadership roles, and will be elected to more representative positions and become members in the local Power Structure-Union Parisad, School Committee, etc.
- Being educated, they will be more able to contribute to the economic viability of their family. And their status will be enhanced.
- Women enjoy more gender equity and their voice is heard in the family and in the society and they are able to speak for others, within the community.
- Unjust activities reduced in the society.

11. Project Management:

- Hill Child Home understands that the Project Management is the key to implement the project. The project will be implemented by a 5-member Project Implementation Committee (PIC) consisting of the Executive Director and community leaders, (Gender balance will be maintained). The PIC will hold fortnightly meeting and take necessary action to achieve the expected results.
- To keep the project in right track, the committee will make regular visits to the project site.
- For collection of information of project activities on regular basis a reporting format will be developed based on which reports will be prepared to send to the donors
- Monitoring will be thus a continuous or periodic review and surveillance by the project management to ensure that input deliveries, work-schedules, targeted outputs and other required actions are proceeding according to the plan.

Annexure

Implementing Organisation

Full name of the organization: Hill Child Home

Address: Tongkhang para, Kuhalong, Bandarban Sadar, Bandarban Hill District, Bangladesh E-mail:mongyeo.childhome@yahoo.com

Name of the Executive Director and contact person: Mr. Mongyeo Marma

Cell: 01556546375

Organizational Structure, working method and areas of work of the project holder:

Legal status of the organization: Registered with Social Welfare Department, Government of Bangladesh Bandar No: 221 dated 17/7/2008

Vision: The organisation visualizes a society free from discrimination, illiteracy, hunger, and socio-economically self reliant and is conscious about basic rights of the people.

Mission: Uplift of socio- economic conditions of indigenous community through formal and non formal education, undertaking income generating activities and turn the organization self sustained.

Values: The organization is guided by some values and principles as under:

Spirit of humanity,

Uphold the dignity of the person.

Belief about power among the powerless,

Flexibility

Empowerment

Transparency and Accountability

Learning organization

Respect people

Origin and development of the organization

Hill Child Home is a non –profit indigenous organization located in Badarban district under Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT).It came into being in 2006 with constant initiative of some local social leaders under the leadership of the present Executive Director, Mr. Mongyeo Marma and through contribution of land by a local person, Mr. Apai Marma. The CHT is situated in southeastern part of Bangladesh. It is topographically, demographically, geographically and socio-culturally different from other parts of the country. The entire CHT is divided by three districts-Rangamati, Khagrachari and Bandarban. It has been suffering due to lack of food security, proper education, health, water and sanitation, etc

The prime objectives are

- To take care of the poor orphans
- To create opportunities for their general and religious education
- To create self confidence to become self dependent in their lives.
- To raise mass awareness against violence against women and children
- To establish rights of the children
- To embark upon income generating activities (fish culture, poultry and livestock, cultivation of rice, zinger, turmeric, and other on farm and off farm undertakings).
- To manage water and sanitation facilities
- To give attention to mother and child health care
- To undertake massive afforestation, and aware mass people to protect environment and climate change adaptation and mitigation
- To promote and protect the culture of the indigenous communities
- To create employment opportunities for poverty reduction through human resource development
- To take necessary measures for the victims of man made and natural disasters

It is committed

- to initiate a holistic development approach in building a hunger free, human resourceful and just society
- to enrich the status of lives of the poor ethnic minority, destitute women and children, unemployed youth etc.
- to undertake non-directive, bottom-up, integrated and participatory development framework.

Implementation strategies:

- Ensure community participation and involvement.
- Effective management (regular supervision, monitoring, evaluation and follow-up and reporting).
- Emphasis on regular income to sustain the organisation.
- Capacity building of staffs and School Management Committees.
- Strong linkage and coordination with all related potential stakeholders.
- Utilization of local and available resources for implementation of development activities.
- Coalition building, mobilization and advocacy.
- Facilitating and learning from community.
- Encouraging research and innovation.
- Embark of on previous experience and expertise.

All development activities will be designed and implemented as per local context having direct participation of community people/ beneficiaries

Areas of Work: Hill Child Home works for

- Poverty Reduction, Human Resource Development through formal and non-formal education, religious and cultural education,
- Elimination of violence against women and children and other forms of injustice
- Environment and Climate Change
- Mother and Child Health Care.
- On farm and Off farm activities
- Gender and Development

Governance: Hill Child Home operates through a General Council (policy makers), Executive Council (decision makers) and an Advisory Committee

General Council: It is drawn from a cross section of people with limited number. The GC

at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) makes organizational policies, approves annual budget/ project budget and audit, appoints auditors and elects the Executive Council. It is the supreme body.

Executive Council: Consists of seven members. As an overreaching role, the EC members have a stake in the administrative and financial affairs, besides policymaking and strategic management, which ensures financial transparency and accountability of the organization. The EC approves and reviews the projects and annual plan. The Council guides the Executive Director for smooth and proper implementation of projects.

Advisory Committee: Consists of three members to guide the above committees and key staffs to run the organization effectively

Executive Director: The ED is the head of the organization and exercises authority over all works and activities and provides assistance to staffs by giving supervisory, coaching, counseling and intellectual supports. The ED also maintains necessary liaison with different donors, Govt. Officials, Civil Society and others for development of the organization. The ED is accountable and reportable to the EC.

Above all, the committees and the organisation are guided by the approved constitution of the organisation.

The particulars of the Executive Director and Management Board are as follows:

Name	Position	Social Representation
Mr. Osara Mohathero	President-	Buddhist Monk
Mr. Othesa Prio Vikku	Vice President	-do
Mr. Mongyeo Marma	Secretary /Executive Director	Social service
Mr. Afro Mong Marma	Asst. Secretary	Service holder
Mr. Okumura Vikku	Treasurer	Social Leader
Mr. Reaung Marma	Member	Farmer
Ms. Sue vai ma	Member	Social Service

Involvement of staff and the target group in decision –making processes in the organization:

The Organisation, Hill Child Home practices democracy in the organisation and maximizes its effort to involve its staff, students of the orphanages and community people in participatory process in decision –making to create ownership with an attempt for the sustainability of the organization.

There are different forums of opinion seeking of staffs and the beneficiaries who are considered as subjects and objects of the organization. There are periodical meetings held with them, annual workshop where organizational policy issues are discussed. They feel proud to ventilate their opinion for the welfare of the organization. The organisation then places the suggestions to the Executive Council and subsequently to the General Council for final decision.

Financial Management

- The project along with its budget sanctioned by the donor to the Executive Council for discussion and to recommend for fund receipt. The project places fund requisition to the donor along with planned activities followed by submission of previous statement of expenses and activity report.
- The project follows financial guidelines strictly in line with the specific requirements of the donor.
- All financial transactions are well documented and supported by the necessary memo/bills/voucher
- All procurements are made well transparent with price and quality competitive. The project follows the procurement policy.
- The project account is operated by three signatories- while the signature of the ED is compulsory.
- All the books of accounts (cash book, general ledger, petty cash register) are maintained.
- The project maintains other documents, viz cheque register, stock register/inventories, asset register and others as per suggestion of the donor agency.
- A petty cash is maintained to meet small expenses
- The project submits financial statement as per the format given by the donor.
- The organisation prepares periodical financial and activity report and sends the same to the donors.

Budget:

1) Purchase of land (five acres/ 500 decimals including registration (property of the organization): Tk 250,000/

A) Zinger cultivation, 1st Year (7-8 months):

2) Expenses in 40 decimals (one kani in local language) of land:

I:

S.No	Cost of items	Calculation basis	Amount in Bangladesh Taka
1	Prepare land for cultivation(cutting jungles, weeding cleaning, to plough land, etc)	labours-40xTk250	10,000/
2.	Purchase of seeds	200 kgsxTk75	15,000/
3.	Fertilizers and pesticides	lump sum	4,000/
4.	Plantation of seeds and cleaning of weeds	labours-30xTk250	7,500/
5.	Collection of zinger	labours-30xTk250	7,500/
	Total		44,000/

Total expenses in 40 decimals (one kani) =Tk 44,000/

2.1 Therefore, expenses in 500 decimals (5 acres) =Tk 550,000/

2.2 Guards: Two people @ Tk 2,500 per month. For seven months =Tk 35,000/

3. Total expenses (2.1+2.2) Tk 585,000/

4. Sales Proceeds:

Production -2000 Kgs per 40 decimals (one kani)

In 500 decimals (five acre): 25,000 Kgs

Sales Proceeds@Tk50/ =Tk1, 250,000/

Return on Investment (ROI) without deducting the cost of the land (4-3) from the first crop=Tk 665, 000/

B) Turmeric cultivation, 2nd year (7-8 months):

1. Expenses in 40 decimals (one kani) of land:

:

S.No	Cost of items	Calculation basis	Amount in Bangladesh Taka
1	Prepare land for cultivation	labours-7xTk250	1,750/
2.	Purchase of seeds	160 kgsxTk50	8,000/
3.	Fertilizers and pesticides		not needed, covered from the first crop
4.	Plantation of seeds and cleaning of weeds	labours-12xTk250	3,000/
5.	Collection of turmeric	labours-15xTk250	3,750/
	Total		16,500/

1.1 Cultivation Expenses in 500 decimals =Tk206, 250 /

1.2 Guards: Two people @ Tk 2,500 per month

For seven months =Tk 35,000/

2. Total Expenses (1.1+1.2) Tk241, 250 /

3. Sales Proceeds:

Production – 2000 Kgs per 40 decimals (one kani)

In 500 decimals of land (five acres) production is 25,000 Kgs

Sales Proceeds @Tk 25/ =Tk 625,000/

The **Return on Investment (ROI)** without deducting the cost of the land

(3-2)=Tk 383,750/

Total ROI Tk 1,048,000/

END