INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREA CO-MANAGEMENT (IPAC)

FOURTH ANNUAL WORK PLAN

June 2011 – May 2012

June 14, 2011

This document was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development. It was prepared by International Resources Group for the IPAC project.

COVER PHOTO:

Co-management of the Sundarbans integrates conservation of this important ecosystem with sustainable development for resource dependent communities living adjacent to it. IPAC's Fourth Annual Work Plan strives to build a foundation of sustainability for this and other co-management platforms supporting conservation and development as well as climate change adaptation in 25 protected areas across Bangladesh.

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USAID Contract N° EPP-I-00-06-00007-00
Task Order No: EPP-I-01-06-00007-00
June 14, 2011

Submitted to:
USAID/Bangladesh

Submitted By:

International Resources Group (IRG)
With subcontractors:
WWF-USA, dTS, East-West Center
Environmental Law Institute, Epler-Wood International
The WorldFish Center, CNRS, CODEC
BELA, Asiatic M&C, Oasis Transformation, Module Architects, IUB/JU

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Table of Contents

Acronyms **4**

Foreword **6**

Map of IPAC Project Sites **7**

1 IPAC Overview & Introduction **8**

1.1 Introduction 8

1.2 IPAC Progress to Date 9

1.3 IPAC Implementation and Management Strategy 10

1.4 Approach to IPAC PY 4 Work Plan 11

2 Component Work Planning **14**

2.1 Development of IPAC Strategy 14

2.1.1 Policy Support 14

2.1.2 Communications & Outreach 16

2.2 Building Institutional Capacity 19

2.2.1 Local Training Support 19

2.2.2 National Training Programs 20

2.2.3 Regional and International Training Programs 21

2.3 Site Specific Implementation 22

2.3.1 Cluster Plans Introduction 22

2.3.2 Central Cluster 23

2.3.3 Sylhet Cluster 28

2.3.4 Sundarbans Cluster 36

2.3.5 South Eastern Cluster 42

2.3.6 Chittagong & Chittagong Hill Tracts 49

2.3.7 Alternative Income Generation & Value Chains 54

2.3.8 Landscape Development Fund & Leveraging 55

2.4 Project Management 56

2.4.1 Administration & Finance 56

2.4.2 Monitoring & Evaluation 57

3 IPAC Performance Monitoring Targets **58**

Annex 1: Technical Component Work Plan Matrices **61**

Annex 2: Site-Based Work Plan Matrices **68**

Acronyms

ACF	Assistant Conservator of Forests (post of Park Wardens)
ADP	Annual Development Plan
AIG	Alternative Income Generation
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CHT	Chittagong Hill Tracts
CMC	Co-Management Committees and Councils
CMO	Co-Management Organization
COP	Chief of Party
DC	District Commissioner
DCOP	Deputy Chief of Party
DFO	Divisional Forest Officer
DoE	Department of Environment
DoF	Department of Fisheries
ECA	Ecologically Critical Areas
ECNEC	Executive Committee for National Economic Council
EWC	East-West Center
FD	Forest Department
FRUG	Federation of Resource User Groups
FUG	Forest User's Groups
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GoB	Government of Bangladesh
IPAC	Integrated Protected Area Co-management
IQC	Indefinite Quantity Contract
LOI	Leaders of Influence
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MACH	Management of Aquatic Ecosystems through Community Husbandry
MoEF	Ministry of Environment and Forests
MoFL	Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
MoL	Ministry of Land
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NRM	Natural Resources Management
NS	Nishorgo Sahayak
NSP	Nishorgo Support Project
PA	Protected Area
PMARA	Performance Monitoring and Applied Research Associate
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
PPP	Public Private Partnerships

REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
RIMS	Resource Information and Management System (Forest Department)
RMO	Resource Management Organizations
RUG	Resource User Groups
SEALS	Sundarbans Environment and Livelihood Support (EC funded project)
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
SOW	Statement of Work
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
VC	Value Chain of conservation enterprises

Foreword

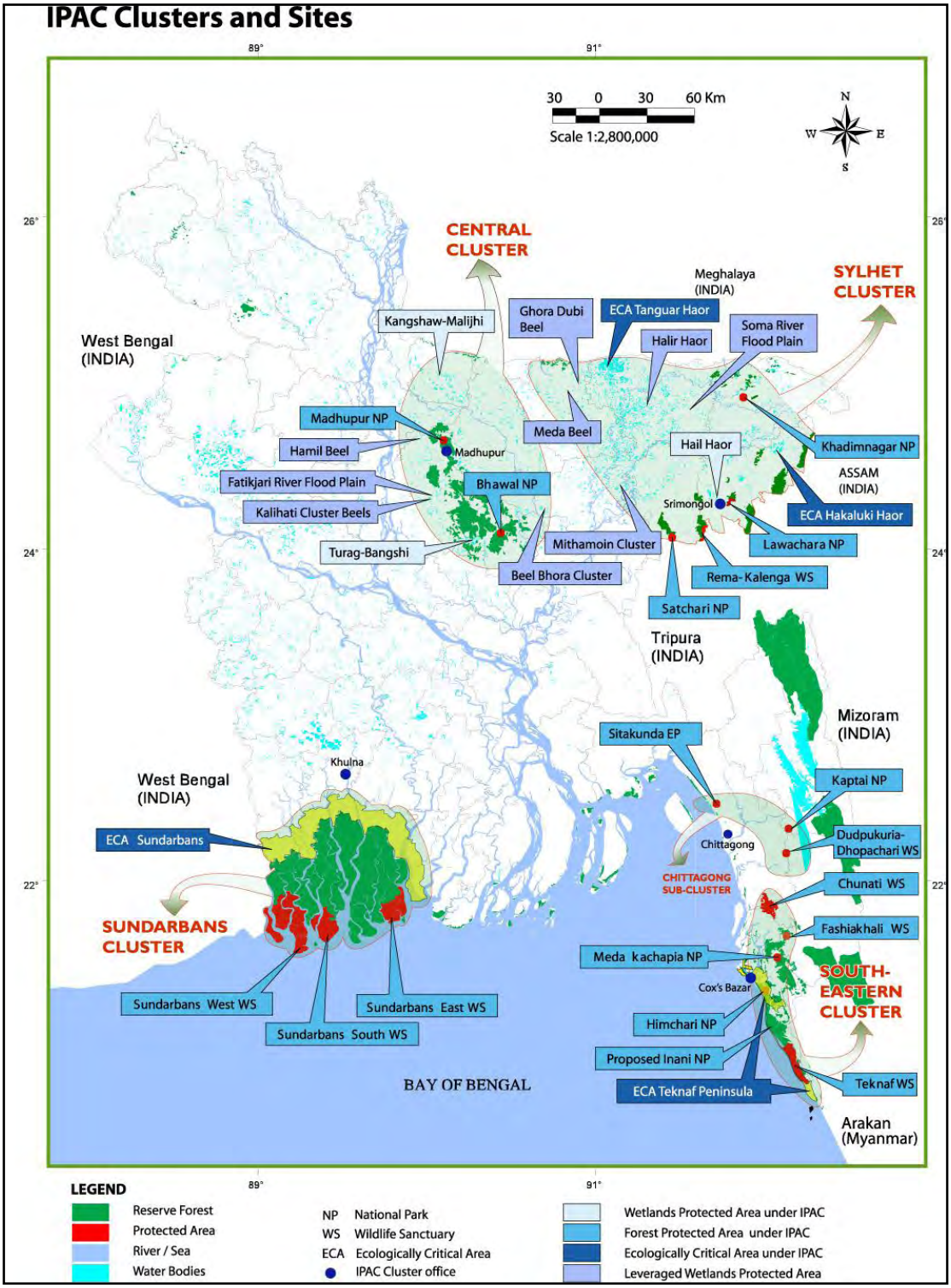
USAID's Integrated Protected Area Co-Management (IPAC) Program Year (PY) 4 Annual Work Plan covers the fourth year of the IPAC contract, from June 1, 2011 through May 31, 2011. **It presents a strategy for building long-term sustainability for the co-management platform developed at both policy and site levels during the first three years of the project.** This Work Plan is presented per technical component, though we emphasize the integrated nature of all this work. Specifically, Development of IPAC Strategy provides a national policy framework to support the Nishorgo Network as an integrated system of forest and wetland protected areas conserved by co-management. Building Institutional Capacity is integrated into national-level and site-based work to ensure an adequate foundation of human and institutional resources exists to drive forward and sustain Nishorgo Network co-management. Site Specific Implementation is sustained by policy support as well as capacity building and training provided by the first two technical components. Successful integration of IPAC's technical components is thus key to long-term sustainability of Nishorgo Network co-management.

The IPAC PY 4 Work Plan was collaboratively developed by cluster-level and Dhaka-based staff and program partners during May and June 2011. A series of 2-day cluster-level workshops were held with staff and partners to develop an ambitious and integrated Work Plan that ensures achievement of IPAC outcomes and leads to long-term sustainability of co-management for Bangladesh's protected areas. In addition to internal planning meetings, IPAC staff engaged in broad-based consultations with CMC and GoB partners in the field as well as in Dhaka.

IPAC is grateful for the support and commitment of USAID/Bangladesh's Economic Growth office, as well as our many partners from government and civil society at the national to local level. IPAC is an ambitious program, and the strong spirit of collaboration and integration is enabling us to achieve and sustain our shared objectives.

We look forward to working with each of you over the next year of the program to further deepen and sustain effective co-management for protected area conservation in Bangladesh through an increasingly vibrant Nishorgo Network.

Map of IPAC Project Sites



1 IPAC Overview & Introduction

1.1 Introduction

USAID's Integrated Protected Area Co-Management (IPAC) project contributes to sustainable natural resource management and enhanced biodiversity conservation in targeted forest and wetland landscapes with the goal of preserving the natural capital of Bangladesh while promoting equitable economic growth and strengthening environmental governance. IPAC is implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) with the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MoFL), through a consortium of partners led by International Resources Group (IRG).[1]

The technical support contract for IPAC was awarded on June 4, 2008 by USAID/Bangladesh through the PLACE Indefinite Quantity Contract (IQC) through Task Order no. EPP-I-01-06-00007-00. The IPAC contract provides for technical advisory services and other support to be provided over a five year period (2008-2013) to GOB environment, forestry and fisheries agencies responsible for the conservation of wetland and forest protected areas across Bangladesh. This network of forest and wetland protected areas is now recognized as the Nishorgo Network. Over the next two years, the IPAC team will continue to work directly with key stakeholders at the local level to support the further development and scaling-up of the conservation and co-management of protected forest and wetland ecosystems in the Nishorgo Network of Bangladesh with particular emphasis given to ensuring its long-term sustainability. IPAC is managed from its Dhaka-based headquarters with field activities in 25 forest and wetland Protected Areas implemented through a network of five Cluster offices based in Modhupur, Srimongol, Cox's Bazar, Chittagong and Khulna. A map of IPAC sites is provided on the proceeding page.

This IPAC Fourth Annual Work Plan covers the period of June 1, 2011, through May 31, 2012, and includes **an integrated plan for moving toward sustainability of co-management for protected area conservation across Bangladesh at both the policy and field levels**. The Work Plan begins with general information about USAID's IPAC project, and then provides specific work plan information for the three major components, Development of IPAC Strategy, Building Institutional Capacity, and Site Specific Implementation. A table presenting these technical components with overall results is presented on the following page. Detailed site-based work plans are also presented in matrix form as an Annex to this report.

The IPAC Fourth Annual Work Plan strives to provide a clear road map for IPAC staff and partners to work together to build a foundation of sustainability for a Nishorgo Network co-management platform that contributes to conservation of Bangladesh's forest and wetland Protected Areas while providing development benefits to the PA-dependent poor – especially women and ethnic minorities. This will contribute to long term sustainable development, strengthen resilience for food security, and result in enhanced capacity to adapt to climate change.

Special emphasis is given to the preparation and implementation of co-management sustainability plans covering all 25 IPAC sites. These plans, built into the broader co-management PA plans (or the IRMP for the Sundarbans 3 wildlife sanctuaries), include institutional capacity building and human resource

[1] In addition to IRG, the IPAC team partners include: WWF-US, dTS, East West Center, ELI, Epler-Wood International, WorldFish Center, CNRS, CODEC, BELA, Asiatic Communications, Oasis Transformation, Module Architects, Independent University of Bangladesh and Jahangirnagar University.

development; sustainable financing; knowledge sharing and networking and policy support. This is guided by a co-management for conservation scorecard recently added to IPAC's PMP.

This table provides a brief summary of IPAC's three technical components and the overall results corresponding to them.

Table 1: IPAC Components & Charts

IPAC Component	***Overall Results***
Development of IPAC Strategy	• Formal policy recognition of PA as a system and management unit, and implementation of a national Integrated Protected Areas Co-management Strategy and Action Plan based on co-management for conservation • Pragmatic conservation financing mechanisms to mainstream conservation financing in favor of co-management implementation at the national and local levels • At the local level, financial support through conservation financing mechanisms will facilitate adaptation of the communities as well as the GOB officials to climate change related vulnerabilities • Successful implementation of the conservation financing mechanism and demonstration of its sustainability • Climate change mitigation through improved land use initiatives and adaptation of the communities as well as the GOB to climate change related vulnerabilities
Building Institutional Capacity	• Institutionalization of co-management by the GOB as the accepted approach for PA management and biodiversity conservation • Ensure the sustainability of gains achieved under MACH and NSP • A cadre of professionals trained in PA management and co-management within the GOB institutions, as well as community organizations and NGOs. • Community-based natural resource management organizations involved in IPAC are sustainable, transparent, pro-poor and equitable.
Site Specific Implementation	• Implementation of the approved IPAC strategy establishing sustainable, more productive and resilient PAs • Declaration of additional forest PA per the Wildlife Preservation (Amendment) Act of 1974 • Increase the number of hectares under co-management and the visibility of the approach, by expanding co-management into additional PAs, including freshwater wetlands, coastal ecosystems and the designated Ecologically Critical Areas (ECA) • Development and demonstration of ecological restoration plans based on co-management to rehabilitate degraded critical ecosystems through co-management while building stakeholder capacity for restoration. • Recovery of areas of the Sundarbans damaged by Cyclone Sidr through co-management initiatives. • Public-private sector alliances for PA co-management established and successfully operating. • Provide conservation-linked livelihoods development opportunities to PA-dependent poor, especially women, youth and ethnic minorities. • Prepare CMO sustainability plans and build their capacity to sustain co-management beyond the life of the IPAC project.

1.2 IPAC Progress to Date

After three years, IPAC has built a solid foundation for the Nishorgo Network as an integrated protected area system of forests and wetlands conserved through co-management. This includes consolidating initial achievements of previous pilot Nishorgo Support Project and MACH Project, and scaling-up a field presence to 25 protected areas managed from five clusters to support a co-management platform of 34 co-management organizations and more than 700 community groups. It also includes the preparation of the Nishorgo Network Strategy and Action Plan and corresponding brand to promote this national PA system based on co-management.

Some other IPAC achievements include the following:

- ✓ The Sundarbans Integrated Resources Management Plan, a seminal management plan outlining co-management as conservation basis for this crown jewel of Bangladesh's PA system;
- ✓ Collaborative REDD+IFM Sundarbans Project (CRISP) concept note;
- ✓ 220,000 hectares of land under improved natural resources management
- ✓ 170,000 hectares of areas of biological significance under improved management
- ✓ 15 policies developed in support of conservation and sustainable natural resources management
- ✓ 65,041 people, including 31,574 women, with increased economic benefits
- ✓ 14,561 people, including 4,995 women, receiving training in NRM and/or conservation
- ✓ 13,666 people with increased capacity in climate change adaptation
- ✓ 78,276 metric tons of CO^2 reduced or sequestered through improved forest management and conservation
- ✓ 91,600 people, including 44,466 women, with access to improved water supply
- ✓ $908,401 generated from conservation-based income generation activities
- ✓ $17.37 million leveraged financing for conservation
- ✓ 1,163,792 people, including 349,306 women, aware of the Nishorgo Network
- ✓ 427,059 recorded visitors to Nishorgo Network Protected Areas

1.3 IPAC Implementation and Management Strategy

Over the next year, IPAC will focus on **building a foundation of sustainability for co-management of integrated protected area conservation through the Nishorgo Network**. This includes both policy and site-based field work. Implementation will continue through a modified matrix management approach. In matrix management, team members report to both a functional manager and a project manager. Under a functional manager, work is divided among groups – each concentrating on their area of knowledge – located on a hierarchical organizational structure. Ownership of the project is shared among the functional managers. Under a project manager, the focus is on teams with cross functional expertise. The team's task is to complete the project with the advantage of speed and flexibility. The project manager is the owner of the project and is ultimately responsible.

IPAC has put in place a modified matrix management system that is continually addressing three layers of complexity: (1) obligations of staff and sub-contractors to the contractual outcomes of their technical specialties, (2) obligations of staff to their Cluster and site-based program, and (3) the obligations of staff to support several cross-cutting themes like gender Due to the technical and geographical complexities of IPAC, the need to maximize the utility of resources, and the desire to apply consistent approaches and techniques to the implementation of the project, the program has committed to the application of matrix management techniques.

Site-based activities will be managed through relevant Cluster offices, with technical support coming from Dhaka-based specialists. While all Cluster-based staff report to their project manager, IPAC also involves functional teams in Communications, AIG/VC and Performance Monitoring. Additionally, Dhaka-based technical support is provided in capacity Building and Training as well as Governance. Monthly technical coordination meetings provide a regular forum for strengthening overall management and for addressing potential challenged that can arise under matrix management.

Four special focuses this year include capacity building and training, Nishorgo Network communications, expanded AIG/VC work, and enhanced capacity for climate change adaptation. This will be addressed in an integrated manner, starting early in the year, through a comprehensive capacity building and training program targeting FOs and Nishorgo Shahayak. IPAC's frontline for mobilizing the co-management

platform at the community level, FOs and Nishorgo Shahayak will receive training to strengthen facilitation skills and build required technical skills in AIG/VC as well as Climate Change V & A work. Initial training will be followed-up with regular quality assurance and technical support.

1.4 Approach to IPAC PY 4 Work Plan

This Work Plan presents a plan of action to guide IPAC through the fourth year of this five-year project, covering the period of June 1, 2011 through May 31, 2012. It builds off the solid foundation of policy work and field activities developed during the first three years of IPAC as well as the previous MACH and NSP pilot projects, and strives build legacy of sustainability with the IPAC co-management platform in the increasingly visible Nishorgo Network of integrated forest and wetland protected areas conserved through co-management.

In the spirit of co-management, this Work Plan was developed with key stakeholders in a collaborative manner. An initial Annual Report-Work Plan planning meeting was held with IPAC Technical Specialists and Cluster Directors in late April. This was followed by a series of four 2-day Work Plan Development workshops held in Khulna, Cox's Bazar, Modhupur and Srimongol in May. During these workshops, IPAC staff and partners reviewed past achievements and developed cohesive work plans to the site level linked to CMC management plans and focusing closely on co-management sustainability, conservation-linked alternative income generation and value chain development, and climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning. Cluster site level and technical work plans were then consolidated into an integrated work plan that was shared with GoB partners from Forest Department, Department of Fisheries and Department of Environment prior to submission to USAID.

Specific Work Plan priorities for building sustainability of the Nishorgo Network include the following:

- ✓ **Finalize the policy framework for Nishorgo Network.** This includes implementation of the Nishorgo Network Strategy & Action Plan as the foundation for an integrated system of forest and wetland protected areas that contribute to sustainable economic development, increased resilience for food security, and enhanced capacity to adapt to and mitigate impacts of climate change. This also includes ensuring the principles of co-management for PA conservation are adequately captured in sector-level acts, orders, rules and regulations related to protected area conservation. Special emphasis this year includes completion of Protected Area rules as well as strengthening the Wetland Leasing policy framework.
- ✓ **Enhance public awareness of and commitment to the Nishorgo Network.** Sustainability for co-management of Bangladesh's forest and wetland protected areas rests significantly on generating broad-based public awareness of and commitment to effective conservation of these areas. IPAC has developed and is ready to roll-out an integrated communications program targeting the general public as well as various national and site-based constituencies to raise the profile of the Nishorgo Network and the importance of ecosystem conservation for sustainable development, food security, and climate change adaptation and mitigation. This year, upon USAID's approval, the branding of the Nishorgo Network will be integrated at the national and field levels through a series of intertwined campaigns. IPAC will work with a growing journalist network to ensure effective coverage of Nishorgo Network activities in national and local media, participate in relevant fairs, events and international days, and develop and distribute communication resources including posters, flipcharts and video documentaries.
- ✓ **Build sustainability of the co-management platform in IPAC's 25 field sites.** While IPAC has facilitated the development of a network of 34 co-management organizations supported by more than 700 community groups, emphasis now must focus on building the capacity of this co-management platform to function effectively and sustainably at both the site-based and national

levels. Of particular importance is building an understanding and commitment of integrated conservation and development, and the capacity to deliver development assistance to PA-dependent poor – especially women, youth and ethnic minorities – participating in co-management. This will include the integration of capacity building and training as well as the provision of financial support through entrance fee revenue sharing, grants through the IPAC's LDF, and leveraging resources from other sources including Arannayk Foundation. It also includes registration of CMOs with Department of Social Welfare as NGOs as well as establishment of functional offices.

- ✓ **Expand impact and reach of AIG/VC activities.** Targeting PA-dependent poor, especially women, youth and ethnic minorities, IPAC will continue to ramp-up its AIG/VC activities. Alternative Income Generation work will prioritize aquaculture and homestead gardening to generate increased income as well as to enrich the nutritional value of diets in IPAC sites. Value Chain work will focus on responsible tourism development through expanding the number of community eco-guides and eco-cottages, and building links to Bangladesh's growing tourism. Additionally, Value Chain work will seek to strengthen and expand the handicraft value chain linking ethnic minority producers with Aarong for national and international markets. LDF grants will also prioritize broad-based AIG/VC support.

- ✓ **Develop capacity for Climate Change Adaptation.** This year, IPAC will roll-out a Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan Development initiative targeting all 700 community groups active in the Nishorgo Network co-management platform. Built into monthly VCF meetings and facilitated by Nishorgo Shahayak facilitators, this initiative will follow a stepped process that builds awareness of climate change, conducts a vulnerability assessment, lists and ranks adaptation strategies, and leads to the preparation of village-level adaptation plans that can be implemented directly and/or rolled-up to the landscape level for sharing and leveraging support from local government and also to be integrated into CMC co-management plans.

- ✓ **Leverage Conservation Financing through Forest Carbon Markets.** Building off of the solid platform of capacity building, data collection and analysis developed this past year, IPAC will work with GoB, the donor community and potential investors to move forward forest carbon financing. This will include efforts to bring the Collaborative REDD+IFM Sundarbans Project and Chanuti WS carbon initiative to market, completion of a concept note 'bundling' carbon inventory efforts for six other Protected Areas, and supporting MoEF through the Forest Department in its preparation of a national REDD strategy.

- ✓ **Leverage Investments to Expand and Sustain the Nishorgo Network.** IPAC will continue to work with USAID, other donors and their projects as well as the private sector to stimulate investment to both expand and sustain the Nishorgo Network. Building off of a successful Sundarbans co-management coordination workshop in May 2011, IPAC will work with Forest Department to leverage additional investment necessary for effective co-management of the Sundarbans as well as other protected areas. IPAC will work with the private sector, notably the Daily Star, on potential site-based and/or network-wide partnerships. This year IPAC will also strive to complete fundraising for the Lawachara Community-Owned Nature Interpretation Center.

- ✓ **Expand Nishorgo Network Reach to the National Level.** This year, IPAC will facilitate the nesting of a number of co-management constituents working at the local level to raise their voice and profile in national-level discourse on co-management, sustainable development, conservation, climate change adaptation and mitigation and food security. This includes initiating a national network of CMCs and RMOs as well as a possible Peoples Forum network; strengthening a growing network of eco-guides and eco-cottage owners; and linking the Nishorgo Network with the national network of wetlands CBOs.

IPAC will approach this year's focus on Nishorgo Network sustainability in an integrated manner, ensuring strong collaboration and communication that harmonizes IPAC's policy and field work, and

ensures efficient and effective investment of technical assistance to achieve results. Additionally, IPAC will continue to focus on Quality Assurance and Quality Control to ensure excellence in all of IPAC's work. This includes strenuous monitoring and verification of all activities and impact through the recently-finalized Performance Monitoring Plan, annual audits of sub-contracted implementing partners, and on-going reviews and strengthening of IPAC operations and management systems.

Table 2: IPAC Co-Management Sustainability Plan

Sustainability Plans for Co-Management Organizations
This year, IPAC is taking active steps to ensure co-management organizations can sustain effective conservation and development objectives beyond the life of the project. Specific measures include the following:
Preparation of site-specific sustainability plans covering IPAC's 25 sites. This includes the incorporation of a specific sustainability section in each of the 22 PA co-management plans currently under development for 17 forest and 5 wetland PAs. IPAC notes that sustainability is already addressed in the Sundarbans IRMP covering that area's 3 protected areas.
Institutional capacity building & human resource development for sustainability is central to IPAC's CMO and community group capacity building and training initiatives in PY 4 and 5. Special emphasis is given to organizational and financial management. A performance monitoring scorecard for CMOs has been developed to efficiently guide progress toward sustainability. Additionally, build capacity and commitment of government agencies to work with and support CMOs as partners for conservation.
Establishment of long-term and integrated financing mechanisms is being developed to cater to the specific opportunities of each Protected Area. It includes registration of all CMOs with the Department of Social Welfare so that they can generate and manage funds. Fund raising opportunities include strengthening of entrance fee revenue sharing and eco-tourism opportunities in parks with significant or growing numbers of visitors; preparation of a broad-based revenue sharing policy for Sunddarbans CMOs; scaling-up of social forestry opportunities to generate revenues while also re-greening the landscape; leveraging an expansion of Arannayk Foundation support for CMOs working on conservation of tropical forests; linking CMOs to GoB budget support opportunities; and leveraging further donor and private sector support to expand and sustain the co-management platform.
Development of a policy and regulatory framework supporting Nishorgo Network, clarifying co-management as Bangladesh's PA conservation approach and identifying opportunities for GoB financial and technical support to utilize and sustain CMOs as effective partners.
Knowledge sharing & networking of CMOs to build a national voice and platform for CMOs in order to more effectively influence GoB policy and financial support for co-management of PA conservation.

The IPAC Program Year 4 Work Plan is written in three main Chapters and an Annex:

Section 1 provides a general overview of IPAC and the PY 4 Work Plan

Section 2 is the centerpiece of the Work Plan and comprises of detailed component-based as well as project management work plans. Development of IPAC Strategy includes Policy as well as Communications and Outreach sub-components. Building Institutional Capacity covers capacity building and training activities. Site Specific Implementation includes cluster and site-specific work plans as well as AIG/VC and LDF/leveraging work plans.

Section 3 provides a summary of targets towards outcomes and deliverables, based on IPAC's Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP).

An Annex provides detailed work plans matrices for technical component and site-based work plans.

2 Component Work Planning

This chapter of the Work Plan provides detailed plans of IPAC's three main technical components outlined in the Scope of Work. While each technical component is presented separately, implementation is necessarily integrated and emphasizes sustainability of a co-management platform to achieve long-term integrated conservation and management results for Bangladesh's expanded Protected Area system Development of IPAC Strategy focuses on building a sustainable policy framework for co-management sustainability, and includes Policy Support and Communications & Outreach sub-components working together at both the national and site-based levels. Building Institutional Capacity targets government officials and other co-management stakeholders with specific opportunities to build capacity in co-management. Emphasis this year will be given to the co-management platform, both co-management organizations and community groups, to give them the necessary management and technical tools to sustain their co-management work beyond the life of IPAC. Site Specific Implementation is the heart of this Work Plan and provides site-specific work plans presented per Cluster and emphasizing sustainability of co-management in each site. The chapter ends with a brief section on Project Management, with sub-sections on Administration and Finance as well as Monitoring and Evaluation.

2.1 Development of IPAC Strategy

Over the next year, the IPAC Team will work with national and field-based partners to strengthen a policy framework that contributes to sustainability of the Nishorgo Network, Bangladesh's integrated system of forest and wetland Protected Areas conserved by co-management. This includes policy-level work to ensure a regulatory framework is in place for effective co-management as well as technical support to field work to operationalize recent policy development (for example, Entrance Fee distribution and revised Social Forestry rules) in order to demonstrate its effectiveness and its role in sustaining co-management in the field. It also includes Communications and Outreach necessary to build awareness of and commitment to Nishorgo Network at both the national and site-based levels.

2.1.1 Policy Support

Policy Support will focus on solidifying the regulatory framework for conservation of protected areas through co-management. It includes tracking and wrapping-up various national regulations and policies as well as demonstrating and operationalizing recently-established policies that support and can help sustain co-management. Priorities include the following:

- ✓ **Operationalize the Nishorgo Network Strategy & Action Plan.** This Strategy & Action Plan was developed last year and provides a policy framework for an integrated protected area system that includes forest, wetland and potentially other kinds of protected areas to be conserved by co-management. Regular consultations and briefings linked to an aggressive Nishorgo Network branding campaign will build awareness of and commitment to the Nishorgo Network as Bangladesh's national and integrated protected area system.

- ✓ **Complete Revisions to Forest Act, Wildlife Act and Protected Areas Rules.** While most technical work for these three essential policies has already been completed, this year senior IPAC staff will track progress through the legal process in order to ensure principles of co-management are maintained. This requires regular consultations with Forest Department as well as possible technical support to complete drafting of PA rules.

- ✓ **Support Wetland Leasing Policy Reform.** IPAC will continue to work with the Department of Fisheries to reform wetland leasing policy away from the current economically determined and time constrained model to one that is more adaptive, ecologically-based and reflective of co-management. Specific activities include technical assistance to complete a Government Order on co-management of wetland fisheries management, and technical support to expand community and co-managed approaches to wetlands management in consultation with Ministry of Land.

- ✓ **Co-Management for Conservation Impact Assessment.** In collaboration with GoB and NGO partners, IPAC will facilitate an impact assessment of co-management for conservation, looking at ecological, economic and social parameters of co-management, and attempting to confirm it as an effective approach for protected area conservation management in Bangladesh.

- ✓ **Implementation of Social Forestry Plantations.** The revised Social Forestry rules provides a significant opportunity for integrating forest rehabilitation with financial sustainability for co-management organizations as well as development opportunities for PA-dependent poor. IPAC launched an initial pilot in the Lawacahara NP buffer zone last year, and plans to roll-out similar activities in at least three additional PAs this year. Besides ensuring the success of this work, IPAC will share results and encourage adaptation of this approach at larger scale by Forest Department with co-management organizations in the future.

- ✓ **Implementation and Expansion of Entrance Fee Revenue Sharing.** Especially in parks and sanctuaries with large numbers of visitors, Bangladesh's entrance fee revenue sharing system provides a significant opportunity for financing sustainability of co-management for conservation. This year, IPAC will work with Forest Department and relevant CMCs to assess progress and constraints associated with the Entrance Fee Revenue Sharing System, including monitoring both the flow and use of funds. IPAC will seek opportunities to streamline the process, expand Entrance Fee Revenue Sharing into new Protected Areas, and continue with previously-initiated work to adapt this to a broader revenue sharing policy for the Sundarbans.

- ✓ **Finalization and Implementation of PA Co-Management Plans.** This year, IPAC will continue to work with CMCs working in 22 Protected Areas to finalize and then commence implementation of their co-management plans. Importantly, IPAC will ensure that each of these plans incorporates a Sustainability Plan that charts a course for institutional and financial sustainability beyond the life of IPAC. IPAC will also provide technical support to ensure adequate provision of capacity building and training is provided to support efficient implementation of these co-management plans.

- ✓ **Forest Carbon Finance Support.** IPAC will build from the strong foundation of work started last year to move forward forest carbon finance opportunities in Bangladesh in a number of ways. This includes 'bringing to market' the recently-completed Collaborative REDD+IFM Sundarbans Project concept note, completion of an additional concept note for a 'bundled' forest carbon financing project for 6 additional Protected Areas, and limited technical support to the Forest Department and Ministry of Environment & Forests for the development of a national REDD policy.

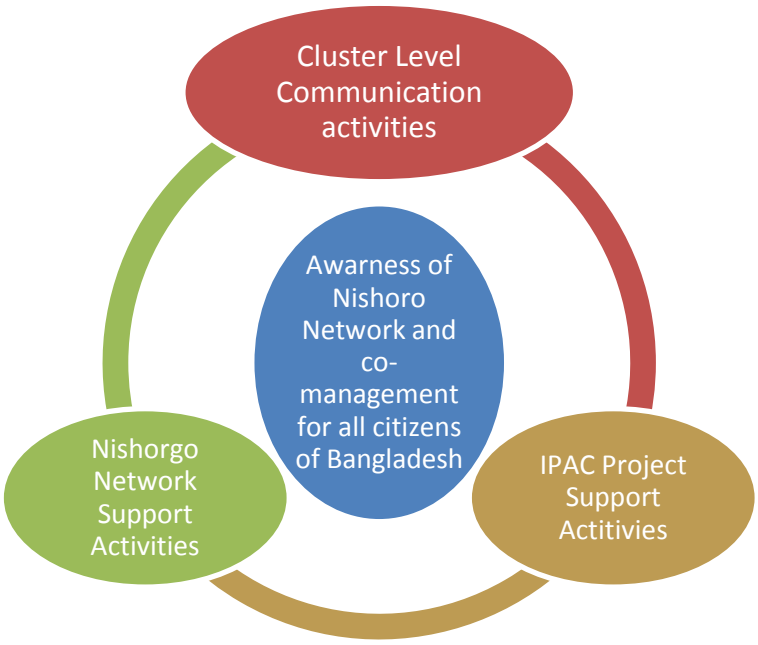
- ✓ **Expand Nishorgo Network Reach to the National Level.** This year, IPAC will facilitate the nesting of a number of co-management constituents working at the local level to raise their voice and profile in national-level discourse on co-management for conservation. This includes

initiating a national network of CMCs and RMOs as well as a possible Peoples Forum network; strengthening a growing network of eco-guides and eco-cottage owners; and linking the Nishorgo Network with the national network of wetlands CBOs. This will be done in close collaboration with the Communications Team.

2.1.2 Communications & Outreach

This year, the Communication & Outreach Work Plan strives to build awareness of and commitment to the Nishorgo Network as the foundation for integrated forest and wetland Protected Area conservation based on co-management. This Work Plan integrates support for the Nishorgo Network through a series of integrated campaigns and activities at the national and field level. It also includes specific activities that support IPAC project communications work.

IPAC recognizes the need for mass awareness regarding Nishorgo Network's work to the general population. This includes those who are directly involved and working with the forest and wetlands of Protected Areas as well as Bangladesh's youth, policy makers, thinkers and the general public. IPAC also recognizes the need for awareness around the country regarding the core objectives of IPAC as well as climate change and food security issues in general and this quarter IPAC's main goal is to move forward with that intention in mind. The diagram below demonstrates IPAC's integrated approach to communications and outreach.



Nishorgo Network Communications & Outreach

Upon USAID's approval of IPAC's revised Branding Plan, IPAC will work with GoB and other co-management partners to launch the Nishorgo Network brand through a series of campaigns and events that include the distribution of a range of materials including posters, flipcharts and a video documentary. Specific activities include the following:

- ✓ **Development of National Campaigns:** There will be three focused campaigns for Nishorgo Network, they will be around the ideas of "Responsible Tourism," "Know your Forests," and

"Know your wetlands." A very intricate plan will be rolled out to engage the entire country, local communities, students, private sector and other partners for each of these campaigns.

- ✓ **Youth Engagement:** The IPAC team gives special focus to youth arranging the focused campaigns involving schools and universities. National debate competitions in television, Bangladesh scout involvement, and other awareness programs will continue to keep the youth engaged in nature conservation in Bangladesh. Nishorgo Clubs will continue to be engaged as more focused campaigns roll out.

- ✓ **Development of Radio program and Local Theaters:** A radio program will be broadcasted focusing on Nishorgo Network's goals for two months. The interactive popular theater groups will be further strengthened and performances in different villages of the protected areas will continue with newer script and focus in the coming year.

- ✓ **Development of Key messages for Targeted groups:** The Communication team will continuing to develop key messages on Nishorgo network in coordination with Asiatic to develop slogans and other communication materials. The official tag line for Nishorgo Network will be built on and promoted which is, "I am Nature's Nature is mine" In Bengali: "*Ami Prokiti r Prokiti Amar*."

- ✓ **Launching of the Nishorgo Network Documentary**: IPAC completed the Nishorgo Network documentary. It has been submitted to USAID for approval in March 2011. Following approval, IPAC plans to broadcast the documentary widely both nationally and internationally.

- ✓ **Nishorgo Network Bengali Promotional Materials:** There will be a series of Nishorgo Network focused promotional materials that will be distributed to the field. Posters flipcharts and trail brochures for Nishorgo Network are ready for distribution and are pending USAID approval. Upon approval it will be distributed widely.

- ✓ **Nishorgo Network Television Commercial:** As a part of the National Campaign a television commercial will be developed and aired in the national level and internationally. It will focus on co-management and nature conservation.

- ✓ **Expand Nishorgo Network Reach to the National Level.** Work with other IPAC staff to facilitate the nesting of a number of co-management constituents working at the local level to raise their voice and profile in national-level discourse on co-management for conservation. This includes initiating a national network of CMCs and RMOs as well as a possible Peoples Forum network; strengthening a growing network of eco-guides and eco-cottage owners; and linking the Nishorgo Network with the national network of wetlands CBOs.

IPAC Communications & Outreach

The Communications Team will also continue to effectively communicate IPAC as a USAID project, ensuring compliance to ADS 320, participating in various events, preparing and distributing success stories and various technical reports, revamping the project web site, and in general ensuring timely, professional and effective communication of IPAC's progress. This includes the following:

- ✓ **Reports and Publications:** The Communication Team will continue to produce and assist with IPAC technical reports and publications. This covers a range of different kinds of materials from quarterly Bengali newsletters to technical reports. Success stories will be produced each month with a goal of one story per month totaling to 12 for the next year.

- ✓ **Celebration of International Day and Participation in Fairs:** IPAC will participate in celebration of different National and International days linked to conservation of forests and wetlands or environment, and co-management. Depending on scope IPAC will engage with stalls, workshop, competitions, youth involvement and other activities with the specific theme of these days.

- ✓ **Development of Fact Sheets**: IPAC will update and make available existing fact sheets covering on-going work as well as site-specific fact sheets. Additionally, IPAC will create new fact sheets that reflect new directions of IPAC, especially the focus on sustainability, in the coming year.

- ✓ **Engaging Media:** Following the same model as last year, IPAC will continue to engage the visual, print and internet media. Journalists' visits to PAs will be planned and press releases will continue to mark special events and accomplishments.

- ✓ **High Level Visits to IPAC sites from the government and USAID**: IPAC will continue to support effective high level visits to IPAC sites. This includes providing all aspects of preparation and implementation, working in close collaboration with USAID.

- ✓ **Providing Assistance to GoB**: IPAC will continue to provide assistance to the Forest Department, Department of Fisheries and Department of Environment much like last year with Forestry Congress and Tree fair.

- ✓ **Workshops and Events:** IPAC will continue to arrange workshops bringing focus to the work of co-management both in Dhaka as well as in other clusters. Event will be also organized with the specific focus; such as the co-management day event for 2012, which will have a cross cutting approach, bringing local work to the national level.

- ✓ **Website Development:** Early in the year, IPAC will conduct a complete overhaul of the current website to make it more user-friendly and useful. Presentation will be revised and information assessed. An initial overhaul of content will be followed by bi-monthly content upgrades. The Communications Specialist will provide regular oversight of this work.

- ✓ **Cluster Team Engagement:** Various communication and outreach related visits will take place and several Communication and Outreach Workshops will be held with the cluster team and Dhaka team for improved coordination.

2.2 Building Institutional Capacity

One of the keys to ensuring sustainability of co-management for Protected Area conservation is building effective institutional capacity and human resources through effective capacity building and training. IPAC will continue to implement an increasingly strong capacity building and training component that strives to balance capacity building in national GoB agencies to commit and support co-management as an effective tool for forest and wetland protected area conservation, and especially on the co-management platform in order to ensure sustainability of co-management beyond the life of IPAC. As IPAC enters the fourth year of the project, we have a solid foundation off co-management reflected by 34 co-management organizations supported by more than 700 community groups working together to conserve 25 Protected Areas. This year, as part of IPAC's sustainability plan, extra effort will be given to training and capacity building of the CMOs and community groups so they have both the technical skills and managerial competence to sustain effective co-management for protected area conservation while ensuring development opportunities for PA-dependent poor.

Building Institutional Capacity involves the integration of three sub-components. At the core of this is Local Training Support. This includes specific training programs that will be rolled-out as soon as June to build capacity of CMOs, community groups and CPGs. Key to this is an aggressive campaign to train-up IPAC FO and Nishorgo Shahayak facilitators to work more closely and effectively with community groups on institutional sustainability, alternative income generation and climate change adaptation planning. An additional focus includes more intense support for co-management organizations to build organizational and financial management skills so necessary for their sustainability. This will be further augmented by facilitation and strengthening of National Training Programs and Regional and International Training Programs.

2.2.1 Local Training Support

In order to achieve effective sustainability of the co-management platform for conservation of the Nishorgo Network co-managed Protected Area system, IPAC will place particular emphasis on capacity building and training activities to sustain the co-management platform. The two main targets for this are co-management organizations and local governments, and community conservation organizations.

CMO & Local Government Training & Capacity Building

Co-management organizations will be targeted through monthly meetings while local government will be reached through semi-annual consultations. Specific activities include the following:

- ✓ **Training-of-trainers conducted for and materials distributed to CDs, SFs and SCs** in each Cluster, building skills and capacity to facilitate training in technical areas of conservation and development, climate change vulnerability and adaptation planning, and organizational and financial management.

- ✓ **Development and implementation of a monthly program for CMCs and other CMOs**, coinciding with the monthly meetings, and including organizational management, financial management, conservation and development, climate change vulnerability assessments and adaptation planning, and monitoring and evaluation.

- ✓ **Development and implementation of semi-annual Local Government consultations** that focus on conservation and development, climate change adaptation, and also identify local budget opportunities to support co-management.

Community Organization & VCF Training & Capacity Building

Community organizations will be targeted primarily through the network of more than 700 VCFs located in Protected Area landscapes. IPAC believes building their capacity and voice to be active leaders in co-management organizations is critical to the success of Nishorgo Network's co-management approach. Thus, extra emphasis will be given to engage these organizations, provide opportunities for alternative income generation, and build capacity in leadership and organizational as well as financial management. Specific activities include the following:

- ✓ **Training-of-trainers conducted for and materials distributed to IPAC FOs and Nishorgo Shahayak Facilitators** in each Cluster, building skills and capacity to facilitate training in technical areas of conservation and development, alternative income generation, climate change vulnerability and adaptation planning, as well as organizational and financial management.

- ✓ **Development and implementation of a monthly program for each VCF**, coinciding with the monthly meetings, and including organizational management, financial management, alternative income generation training, climate change adaptation plan development, and monitoring and evaluation.

- ✓ Ensure specific outcomes of this process include preparation of **climate change adaptation plan for each VCF, as well as achievement of alternative income generation targets**. Most important, all community organizations should demonstrate a more confident voice while participating in broader co-management discourse.

Community Patrol Group & Joint Patrol Refresher Course

In order to ensure both safety of Community Patrol Group members as well as effective collaboration between government rangers and community patrollers, IPAC will provide additional technical support and material distribution for Community Patrol Group and Joint Patrol implementation.

2.2.2 National Training Programs

This year IPAC will continue to facilitate national training programs to build capacity of GoB officials and co-management partners. Where possible, IPAC will strive to ensure the long-term sustainability of these programs so that such training opportunities exist in Bangladesh for a next generation of co-managers. Four specific national training activities include the following:

- ✓ **Certificate Course in Conservation Biology & Applied PA Co-Management.** This year, IPAC will continue to support the successful JU-IUB collaboration for a one-month in-residence certificate course in conservation biology and applied PA co-management. The course will be implemented two times this year, targeting a total of 60 participants including GoB field-based staff and NGO field workers. IPAC will work with JU-IUB to explore a long-term plan to sustain this course through one or both participating universities.

- ✓ **Small Grants Program for Research on Co-Management.** IPAC will work with EWC to facilitate a second round of small grants for research on co-management. Targeting 12 mid-level GoB officials, this program integrates provision of a research grant with a series of write-shops and field-level support to effectively mentor researchers for international quality work. The final product of this program includes a book publishing research findings, this year focusing on co-management for conservation in Bangladesh.

- ✓ **Open Water Fisheries Management.** IPAC will work with WFC to develop and facilitate training on open water fisheries management targeting 20 GoB officials and NGO partners interested in learning more about effective co-management of wetlands especially with regard to fisheries management. This activity is linked to policy work to support ecologically-determined and co-managed open water fisheries.

- ✓ **Community-Based Natural Resource Management Seminar.** Early in the year, IPAC will work with EEC to facilitate the second of two seminars on CBNRM. Targeting an audience of 16 NGO representatives, this four-day seminar will provide field workers with a theoretical basis as well as various analytical tools for strengthening their facilitation of CBNRM and co-management.

2.2.3 Regional and International Training Programs

This year, IPAC will continue to facilitate a series of regional and international capacity building and training opportunities for GoB officials and co-management partners. Importantly, these activities are all closely correlated to GoB DPPs. This year's program includes the following:

- ✓ **Certificate course in PA Management** through the University of Montana and in collaboration with the US Forest Service targeting 1 officials in the summer of 2012 and a second in 2013.

- ✓ **2 Regional Study Tours**, targeting 26 participants, to Thailand and in collaboration with RECOFTC.

- ✓ **Diploma or Certificate Course in Co-Management**, targeting 4 participants, to India in collaboration with Wildlife Institute of India.

- ✓ **Cross Site Visit to Nepal**, taregting13 participants, in collaboration with CIRDAP.

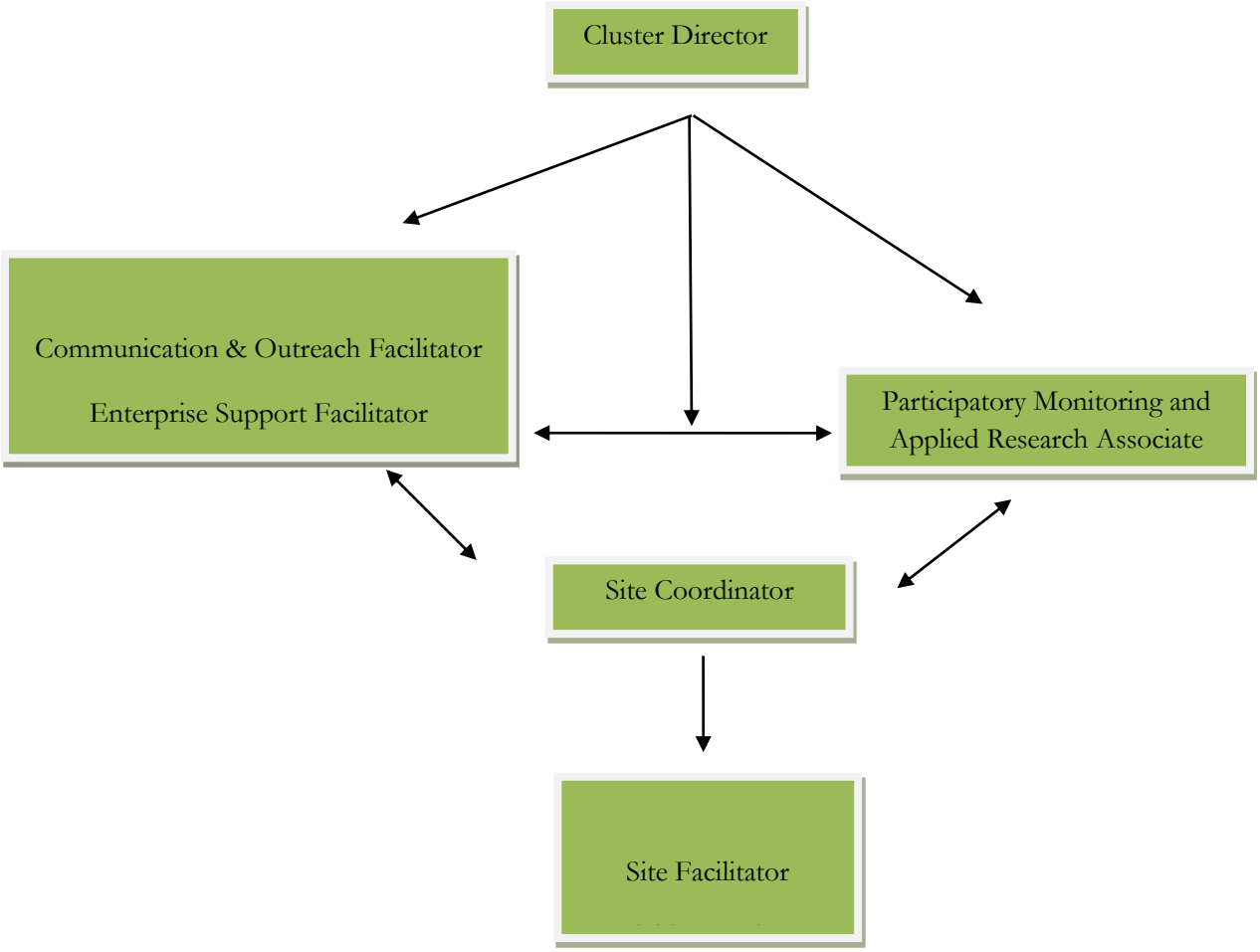
- ✓ **Cross Site Visit to India**, targeting 16 participants, in collaboration with CBA.

2.3 Site Specific Implementation

2.3.1 Cluster Plans Introduction

USAID's IPAC Project completed its third year by May 2011 and entered into the fourth year (June 2011-May 2012) with focus on achieving the sustainability of co-management platforms in order to achieve sustainable conservation of PAs, ensuring effective co-management, livelihoods improvement of dependent communities and addressing climate change impacts on local community. IPAC covers 9 National Parks, 8 Wildlife Sanctuaries, 2 River basins, 3 Haors, 3 Eco-logically Critical Areas and 1 Eco-Park spread over 49 Upazilas in 14 districts. Currently 17 RMOs along with their 2 Central Union Committees, and 20 CMCs are operational in IPAC Protected Areas that have a large no. of community-based organizations including 228 Village Conservation Committee/Groups (VCC/VCG) in wetlands PAs and 748 VCFs in forest PAs, besides a number of their federations such as Peoples Forums and Federations of Resources User Groups. A large number of Community Patrol Groups (CPG) and Sanctuary Guards are actively patrolling forest and wetlands PAs. Nishorgo Sahayaks (NS) as representatives of VCFs are active in social mobilization and conservation extension. Eco-Guides are promoting responsible eco-tourism and Nishorgo Clubs of youths are helping bio-diversity conservation through co-management. IPAC will continue establishing new CMOs, VCFs, PFs and strengthening existing co-management organizations and coordination with Govt. stakeholders (FD, DoE, DoF) during the project year 4.

Cluster-level Team Organogram



IPAC will reinforce facilitation of social mobilization and the capacity building of NSs, CMOs, CPGs and the staff of 3 Government agencies, enabling policy reforms and revisions, climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning, developing drinking water facilities, restoring habitats, popularizing ICS technology, implementing conservation-linked AIG and VC, strengthening eco-tourism facilities and network links, and PA entry fee implementation. Also, IPAC Cluster/Site Teams will continue regular efforts for facilitating LDF and other leverage financing projects, and supporting RMOs and FRUGs for endowment and revolving funds management and schemes implementation. An expanded communication and outreach program will be rolled out soon, upon the approval of a revised branding and marking plan. The project will continue to focusing and prioritizing women, youth and ethnic communities to provide an inclusive constituency for conservation. The cluster/site teams will strengthen their efforts to achieving conservation effectiveness through regular staff coordination meetings, on-site visits, followed by adequate reporting and documentation.

With the objective of developing a participatory Annual Work Plan, IPAC conducted cluster level consultation workshops during May 2011, where cluster Teams and IPAC HQ Team along with the concerned local stakeholders (GoB Depts. and CMOs) enthusiastically participated and shared their views to arrive at the following cluster-specific plans.

2.3.2 Central Cluster

Central cluster represents a unique composition of forest and wetland protected areas where 9 RMOs & 8 FRUGs and 2 CMCs are successfully managing 4 (2 forest and 2 Wetland) Protected Areas comprising 79,500 hectares (3 forest divisions : Tangail, Mymensingh and Gazipur; and 3 fisheries districts : Tangail, Gazipur and Sherpur) including a core zone of 15,360 hectares. Nearly 1.3 million people (in 9 Upazillas and 32 Union Parishads) are impacted in the IPAC PAs landscapes where local communities subsist on agriculture, fishing, forestry, garments, handicrafts, fruits & vegetable cultivation activities, etc. Main threats for the PAs are illegal felling of trees, forestland and wetland encroachment, over fishing, pollution, illegal saw mills, brick kilns, etc. Co-management of the PAs is critically important for mitigating these threats and restoring the habitats to ensure improved biodiversity conservation. IPAC initiated project implementation since June 2008 in Modhupur and Bhawal National Parks and erstwhile MACH sites, Tourag Bangshi and Kangsha Malijhi river basins. VCFs and PFs have been formed for conservation through a range of PA awareness and social mobilization activities. Over all 126 VCFs under forestlands and 98 RUGs under wetlands are functioning with the capacity building supports from IPAC. A range of alternative livelihoods improvement activities are being implemented for participatory conservations through co-management.

The Year 4 will be a very important year for the capacity enhancement and sustainability of CMOs including CMCs and RMOs. The cluster will reinforce facilitation of the capacity building of NSs, CMOs, and other stakeholders including field staff of Government agencies. Global Climate Change assessment and adaptation planning will be done in all the VCFs with facilitation of NSs and FOs who will be imparted TOTs. Responsible eco-tourism will be promoted and managed at important PAs. Also, the project will continue regular efforts for the development of alternative livelihoods through conservation-linked AIG/VC framework, LDF grants particularly for the new CMOs, facilitation and support to the RMOs and FRUGs for endowment fund and revolving fund management and implementation, and strengthening communication and outreach services.

Table 3: Central Cluster Protected Areas

Name of PA	GoB Partner Agency	PA Area (hectare)	Upazila/District
Modhupur National Park	Forest Dept	Total Area: 24,292 Core zone: 8,436	Modhupur/Tangail & Muktagacha/Mymensingh
Tourag Bangshi river basins	Dept of Fisheries	Total Area: 10,000 in monsoon and 1,000 in winter	Kaliakoir/Gazipur & Mirzapur /Tangail
Kangsha Malijhi river basins	Dept of Fisheries	Total Area: 7,430 in monsoon and 900 in winter	Sherpur Sadar & Zhinaigati /Sherpur
Bhawal National Park	Forest Dept	Total Area: 37,769 Core zone: 5,022	Gazipur Sadar, Kapasia & Rajenthrapur/Gazipur
Total Cluster Areas		79,491	

Brief Description of each PA

Modhupur National Park (MNP)

Modhupur National Park was established in 1982 by gazetting 8,436 hectare sal forests under the Widlife (Preservation) (Amendment) Act, 1974. The park is surrounded by 187 villages and nearly 2.4 Lac local people from 71,000 households (from 115 Moujas in 7 Union Parishads) are engaged in subsistence agricultural activities which draw heavily from the Park resources. The area is gateway to the central and northern districts which are important centers for agricultural commodities. The area is especially well-known for the production of good quality banana, pine apple, jack fruit and bamboo. Forest Department maintains 26 field staff with 4 Range Offices (Modhupur & Rasulpur Sadar, and Dokhola & Aronkhola) and 8 Beat Offices. Major threats to forests include encroachment of forestland mainly for agriculture and settlement, unauthorized timber and fuel wood extraction, illegal saw mills, unclear forest land tenure, etc. Co-management approach has critical proved important in mitigating these threats and restore the habitats to ensure improved biodiversity conservation

A co-management platform has been developed for MNP, including 89 VCFs and 2 Peoples' Forum (for 36 Villages), who are represented in the recently formed 2 CMCs for Dokhola Range and Jaus Rasulpur Range, with strong participation of relevant stakeholders equitably drawn from ethnic community, civil society and government depts. as per the CMC Gazette. In the Project Year 4, focusing on the visible impacts to sustaining the CMOs, Madhupur NP will reinforce facilitation of the capacity building of NSs, CMOs, CPGs and other stakeholders, global climate change assessment and adaptation planning, strengthening ICS, development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, LDF project, and strengthening communication and outreach services.

Turag Bangshi (TB) River Basin

Turag Bangshi rivers basin (in rainy season 10,000 hectares and in dry season 1,000 hectares), located 45 km north-west of Dhaka, covers Kaliakoir Upazila of Gazipur District and Mirzapur Upazila of Tangail District, with a population of 2.82 Lac (*Male 1.47 Lac and F-1.35 Lac*) covering 58,099 Households across 250 villages in 8 unions. Main occupation of local people is agriculture and fishing. There are 4 Resource Management Organization (RMO), and 3 Federations of 64 Resource User Groups formed under MACH project. The main rivers of Gazipur District are Turag & Bangshi with a number of beels including Makosh, Jethua and Alua. Five water bodies (*Galachipa Kum, Lalkhar Kum & Gabtoli* Kum at Turag River and *Bara Daha* at Alua beel & *Naokhola Daha* at Mokosh beel) are provided under RMOs' management under MOUs with MoL through MoFL, with 20 fish sanctuaries (of total 31 ha area), which impact 10,000 ha of water body in rainy season. IPAC cluster team has been effectively providing technical support to the 4 RMOs but the following challenges continue :

- ✓ Duration of lease for managing water bodies has not duly been extended yet, and this might create vacuum of authority for RMOs, thereby risking proper management of endowment funds
- ✓ Industrial water pollution at Makosh beel & Turag river is high
- ✓ Regular drought affects habitat capacity for fishes, especially at Makosh & Alua beels where people engage in unauthorized fishing

In the Project Year 4, focusing on the visible impact to sustaining the CMOs, Turag-Banshi team will reinforce facilitation of the capacity building of NSs, CMOs, and other stakeholders, and global climate change assessment and adaptation planning. Site Team will be continuing its regular efforts for development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, facilitation and supports to the RMOs for endowment fund management and schemes implementation, and to strengthen communication and outreach services.

Kangsha Malijhi River Basins

Kangsho Malijhi river basin, comprising 7,430 hectares in rainy season and 900 hectares in the dry season, is situated in Sherpur Sadar and Jhinaigati Upazillas of Shepur District. The project area, about 200-240 km north of Dhaka, comprises 26 villages in 14 Unions, with a total population of 478,292 (m -247,727 and female 230,565) and 111,328 households. The main rivers of the Sherpur District are Old Bhramaputra, Mirgi, Malijhee, Bhogai, Chellakhali and Maharashi. Local population basically lives on agriculture and fishing. The water body is managed by 5 RMOs and 5 FRUGs. The total of 16 staff members are working under local DoF, managed through the District Fisheries Officer with HQs at Sherpur. Five water bodies, under RMOs' management with MOU from MoL through MoFL, cover 22 fish sanctuaries of total area 7.62 ha, impacting 7,430 ha in rainy season. Only one permanent fish sanctuary, Dainner Kur has been declared in 2003. Besides RMOs, 118 RUGs of 2,256 members (M-1466, F-790) are operating, with financial support from the revolving fund with the objective of reducing open water capture fishing pressure, especially during breeding/spawning season.

After successful implementation of MACH project, IPAC integrated Kangsha Malijhi since its inception as a direct implementation PA. IPAC cluster team has been providing utmost support to RMOs for functioning effectively. During the period of IPAC implementation some risk factors are identified as below:

- ✓ A vested interested group has filed a court case against the Aura Baura RMO
- ✓ The extension of water bodies lease period is not duly extended yet
- ✓ FRUGs fund management needs strengthening

In the Project Year 4, focusing on the visible impacts to sustaining the CMOs, Kangsha-Malijhi Team will reinforce facilitation of the capacity building of NSs, CMOs, CPGs and other stakeholders, climate change assessment and adaptation planning, strengthening of ICS, etc. Also, Site Team will be continuing its regular efforts for development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, LDF funded projects, facilitation and supports to the RMOs and FRUGs for endowment and revolving funds management and schemes implementation, and strengthening communication and outreach services.

Bhawal National Park

Bhawal National Park, comprising Gazipur Sadar and Sreepur Upazilas under Gazipur district, is located 40 km north of Dhaka, on the eastern side of Dhaka-Mymensing high way. The Park was established in 1982 (re-gazetted subsequently in 1996), comprising gazetted area of 5,022 hectare of sal reserved forests through the Bangladesh Wildlife (Preservation) Order, 1973. This park is the closest recreation site for the dwellers of the capital, Dhaka as well as tourists coming from all over the country. The Park is surrounded by 23 villages, engaged in primarily subsistence agricultural activities as well as brick making. Threats to Bhawal National Park include encroachment for agriculture land, and fuel wood extraction for home and brick kiln consumption. The Park is administered through Divisional Forest Officer, Wildlife Management and Nature Conservation Division, with 1 Assistant Conservator of Forests, 2 Range Officers (for Park Range and Bhawal Range) and 7 Forest Beat Offices and 26 other personnel engaged in different management activities.

The IPAC Project has been working with the stakeholders of Bhawal National Park since 2008 to assist Forest Department in conservation of its unique biodiversity and improvement of livelihoods of neighboring communities. Since then a platform of co-management has been formed including 37 VCFs and progressing to form a Peoples' Forum. In the Project Year 4 Bhawal NP Team will reinforce facilitation of the capacity building of NSs, VCFs, CPGs and other stakeholders, global climate change assessment and adaptation planning, responsible eco-tourism promotion and network links, strengthening ICS, etc. Also, Site Team will be continuing its regular efforts for strengthening communication and outreach services.

Priority outcomes for PY- 4 include the following:

- ✓ **Increased Capacity of CMOs for effective co-management**:
  Over the next year, Central Cluster will be focusing on capacity building of the co-management platforms. With the establishment of CMOs, the cluster will facilitate Social Welfare Affairs' registration of new CMCs. It will continue participation and will facilitate regular periodical meetings of CMCs, Council, RMOs, FRUGs, VCFs/RUGs, PFs, CPGs, NSs, and GoB stakeholders (FD, DoE, DoF) coordination meetings as well as to build skills and commitment necessary for sustaining co-management of central cluster PAs.

  The cluster will conduct and facilitate a number of orientations/trainings/TOTs, exposure visits for the skill and capacity development of its co-management organizations and staff members to take strong steps towards effective co-management. In this connection, topics/courses will include conservation and development, co-management and relevant policies, AIG/VC, landscape development fund program, monitoring, organizational and financial management, global climate change adaptation, etc. Also, Central Cluster will facilitate development and submission of 3 LDFs project proposals by the new CMOs so as to develop project implementation skill and strong financial support.

- ✓ **Improved conservation management of Protected Areas**:
  To continue improved conservation of Protected Area, the Cluster will initiate a range of bio-physical, and outreach activities during PY4 including landscape identification, map and co-management plan development and implementation, and revised Social Forestry Rules implementation. Also, the cluster will collaborate with Forest Dept to deploy CPGs (100 members) from the existing CFWs and also continue facilitating Sanctuary guarding at wetlands, providing them training and support materials for making them functional for regular patrolling.

  Central cluster will identify and develop Improved Cooking Stoves producer groups (5 to 10 Producers per Site) at all PAs and facilitate training and logistics support to them for expanding adoption of more than 500 ICS, with benefits of increased efficiency in fuel wood consumption, resulting in reduced pressure from fuel wood collection in adjacent protected areas. A range of awareness activities will be continuing throughout the cluster, including 4 Sharing meetings, 3 Mass gatherings, 13 sites/time Miking, 6 Spot based events, 20 School programs/Drawing & quiz competition, 5 different Day's observation, resulting in strong motivation for biodiversity conservation.

- ✓ **Increased number of people benefiting from AIG/VC activities**:
  In the PY4, IPAC Central Cluster will target additional 1,350 households through 45 new VCFs as part of conservation-linked AIG/VC initiatives for PA-dependent poor population, emphasizing fish culture, and Vegetables cultivation, Tailoring, bamboo handicrafts to generate increased income as well as to enrich the nutritional value of diets in landscape areas. Also, a number of PA landscape households will be benefitted from homestead vegetable cultivation with IPAC supports, beyond this framework

  The cluster will arrange adequate technical supports to all new and existing VCFs/HHs for successful implementation and better achievement, including AIG orientations, field progress update by 45 Nishorgo Shohayaks, NSs monthly meetings, local expert suggestions at 2 separate field days, establishing market linkages. Additionally, Central Cluster will establish 10 demonstration plots on fruits *(Amropoli & Apple Cul)* cultivation.

- ✓ **Increased benefits of responsible eco-tourism opportunities for PA-dependent communities**:
  IPAC Central Cluster will target 10 private entrepreneurs to develop eco-lodges to attract and promote eco-tourism sector in Bhawal National Park. It will distribute tourism related promotional/briefing materials and maintain record keeping of willingly visiting tourists.

- ✓ **Development of CC Vulnerability & Adaptation Plans**:
  This year, Central Cluster will facilitate IPAC's Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plans development initiatives throughout 126 VCFs at forestland and 98 RUGs at wetlands PAs. The cluster will develop 1 adaptation plan per VCF/Village based on assessment through consultation meetings facilitated by Nishorgo Shahayaks. Also, those plans will be shared between GoB Stakeholders and Co-management platforms through Meetings and Mass gathering sessions, for the purpose to develop awareness among landscape populations, and facilitate adaptation strategies with the provision of direct or leverage financing from local government.

2.3.3 Sylhet Cluster

The IPAC Sylhet cluster is located in northeast part of Bangladesh and consists of diversified ecosystems such as hill forests, natural rain forests, watersheds of important rivers and wetlands, plains, agriculture, and significant wetlands, ECA, 2nd RAMSAR site of the country, etc. By road the cluster HQs is around 250 Km from Dhaka. Total landscape area of PAs is around 125,736 hectares including core zone of 35,871.8 Hectares. Other specialty of the cluster is that all he 3 Government partners (FD, DoF & DoE) are directly involved in co-management and institutionalization process. Sylhet Cluster also represents a unique composition of forest and wetland protected areas where 8 RMOs with their 2 Central Union Committees for the Haors, and 4 CMCs for National Parks & Sanctuary are continuing successfully with IPAC supports. Khadimnagar National Park has been included as new site under IPAC. The cluster covers all 4 districts of Sylhet division (i.e. Hobiganj, Moulvibazer, Sylhet and Sunamganj) comprising 13 Upazillas. Major rivers are Surma, Kushara, Boulai, Patlai, Monu and Khoai, with hundreds of *charas* and streams flowing from the surrounding hills.

The IPAC project in the cluster, building on the sound foundation of MACH project for wetlands and Nishorgo Support Project (NSP) for forest PAs, includes attractive tourism places, and has attracted attention of the different stakeholders: new CMO representatives from other IPAC clusters have visited Lawachara and Hail Haor as part of their exposure/cross learning on co-management and biodiversity conservation. For instance, this cluster is the pioneer for implementation of Govt. policy on 50% benefit sharing of total entree fee with local community engaged in visitor's management system for eco-tourism. Also, the cluster is pioneer for implementation of Revised Social Forestry Rules, 2010.

In the year 3, Sylhet cluster focused on the CMCs reformation according to new GO, and that included Lawachara, Satchari, and Rema-Kalenga CMCs. The cluster continued contribution for conservation through a range of PA awareness and social mobilization activities over 135 VCFs under forestlands and 130 RUGs, VCGs and VCCs under wetlands, functioning with the capacity building supports from IPAC. Also, a range of alternative livelihoods improvement activities has been taken into action for participatory conservations through co-management. Additionally, the cluster is leveraging with GEF-UNDP financed CWBM Project in Hakaluki haor (phased out during Dec/10 but another CCTF funded project going onboard), and IUCN lead & SDC supported CBSMTH project covering Tanguar haor.

The upcoming year 4, is very significant and critically important for the capacity enhancement and sustainability of CMCs, RMOs and FRUGs. The cluster will reinforce facilitation for the capacity building of NSs, CMOs, and other stakeholders, climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning, reforestation and habitat restoration, eco-tourism facilities and network links, strengthening PA entry fee system, etc. Also, it will be continuing its regular efforts for development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, and LDF project by the selected wetland RMOs, facilitation and supports to the RMOs and FRUGs for endowment and revolving funds management, schemes implementation and Arannayk Foundation's funded projects implementation, and strengthening communication and outreach services.

Table 4: Sylhet Cluster Protected Areas

Name of PAs	GoB Partner	Total Area (hectare)	Upazila/District
Lawachara National Park	Dept. of Forest (Wildlife division)	Total Area: 18,178 Core zone: 1,250	Kamolganj & Sreemongal /Moulvibazar
Satchari National Park	Dept. of Forest	Total Area: 8,342 Core zone: 243	Chunarughat & Madhobpur /Hobiganj
Rema-Kalenga Wildlife Sanctuary	Dept. of Forest (Wildlife division)	Total Area: 13,327 Core zone: 1,795	Chunaroghat & Sreemongal /Hobiganj
Khadimnagar National Park	Dept. of Forest	Total Area: 15,679 Core zone: 678.8	Sylhet sadar & Goain Ghat /Sylhet
Hail haor	Dept. of Fisheries	Total Area: 13,000 Core zone: 3,795	Moulvibazer sadar & Sreemongal /Moulvibazar
Tanguar haor	Dept. of Environment	Total Area: 26,344 Core zone: 9,727	Daharmopasha & Tahirpur /Sunamganj
Hakaluki haor	Dept. of Environment	Total ECA area: 30,866 Core zone: 18,383	Baorolekha, Juri, Kulaura, Fenchuganj & Golabganj /Moulvibazar & Sylhet
Total Cluster Areas	Total	125,736	

Brief Description of each PA

Lawachara National Park

The Lawachara National Park, comprising semi evergreen rainforest is a part of West Bhanugach Reserved Forest, is located in Kamalgonj and Madhubpur Union of Kamalgon Upazila and Kalighat and Srimangal union of Sreemongal Upazila under Moulvibazar District. In 1996, of 2740 ha west Bhanugach reserve forest, a good forest patch was declared as National park comprising 1250 ha. The Park authority is Wildlife Management & Nature Conservation Division of Forest Dept.. Approximately, 167 plants, 4 Amphibians, 6 of Reptiles, 246 species of birds, 20 species of Mammals are available in the Park. About 18 families of Hollock gibbon have given the Park a flagship attraction; other key species include Capped Langur, Slow Loris, Pig-tailed Macaque, Orange-bellied Himalayan Squirrel, and Barking Deer. The park is surrounded by 30 villages (include two Khashia punji inside the park) and 6 Tea gardens, which are dependent on park's natural resources.

IPAC has been working with Lawachara National Park stakeholders since 2009 to scale up NSP initiatives further to achieve the sustainability of co-management platform. With the support from NSP, Co Management Councils & Committees were formed in Lawachara. IPAC started with reforming of co-

management platform as per the new GO. Under IPAC 30 VCFs, a Peoples' Forum, 4 CPGs including one female group are functioning well. According to new gazette on 18 April/11 a Council & a Committee has been formed, and registration of the CMC with the Department of Social Welfare is under process.

LNP CMC has signed an agreement with Arannayk Foundation for using Tk. 10 lac grant with a provision for revolving fund and now the project is under implementation process. Entry fee collection as user fee revenue has started from 1 November' 2009, and as on 15 May/11, in total 1,66,942 tourist visited LNP and contributed to generate revenue of BDT: 36,09,250.00. IPAC trained some unemployed youths as Eco-guides for facilitating tourists, and supported entrepreneurs to build 03 eco cottages surrounding LNP. For students and their guardians a Dormitory has been established in LNP.

In the Project Year 4, focusing on the visible impacts to sustaining the CMOs, Lawachara NP will reinforce facilitation of the capacity building of NSs, CMOs, CPGs and other stakeholders, climate change assessment and adaptation planning, reforestation and habitat restoration, eco-tourism promotion, facilities and network links, PA entry fee system, strengthening ICS, etc. Also, Site Team will be continuing its regular efforts for development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, and LDF & leverage financing projects, and strengthening communication and outreach services.

Satchari National Park

The word "Satchari" refers to the seven streams, flowing through this forest area. The tropical evergreen/semi-evergreen Satchari National Park (SNP), established in 2006, comprises an area of 243 hectares as a part of the 6205 hectares Raghundan Hills Reserve Forest. The Park, situated in the Paikpara Union of Chunarughat Upazila under Habiganj district, is under the jurisdiction of Satchari Wildlife Range under Moulvibazar Wildlife Management & Nature Conservation Division. There are 24 mammals, 149 birds, 6 amphibians, 18 reptile species in the park. Hoolock Gibbon and Phayre's Langur are the resident in the park. Among the bird species Oriental pied Hornbill, Red Jungle Foul, Red- headed Trogon, pygmy Woodpecker are common. The park is surrounded by 38 villages (include one Tipra ethnic settlement within the core zone) and 8 Tea gardens.

The Integrated Protected Area Co-Management (IPAC) Project as continuation of NSP is working since 2009 for scaling up NSP initiatives in order to attain sustainability of co-management platform which includes a reformed CMC, 38 VCFs, a Peoples' Forum and 1 CPG. The CMC is registered with the Department of Social Welfare. AIG/VC activities have emphasized homestead gardening, agriculture, fish culture, weaving, bamboo product development and plant nursery. The CMC has signed an agreement with Arannayk Foundation for additional AIGA support for dependent of VCF & CPGs. Another agreement has been signed with GIZ to support installation of Improve Cooking Stove (ICS) to the park dependant households. Entry fee collection has continued since 1 November 2009 and up to 15 May/11 61,879 tourists have visited the SNP and total revenue collected amounts to Tk. 1,084,995. There are 6 trained Eco-guides who have been working in the park. One student dormitory has already been established, however, full furniture and other facilities have not yet been provided.

In the Project Year 4, focus will be on achieving the sustainability of the CMOs. Satchari NP Team will reinforce the facilitation of the capacity building of NSs, CMOs, CPGs and other stakeholders, global climate change assessment and adaptation planning, reforestation and habitat restoration, tourism facilities and network links, PA entry fee system, and strengthening of ICS. Also, Site Team will be

continuing its regular efforts for development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, and LDF and leverage financing projects, and strengthening of communication and outreach services.

Rema-Kalenga Wildlife Sanctuary

Rema-Kalenga Wildlife Sanctuary (RKWS), officially established in 1982 with 1795 ha area, is a part of 6232 ha Tarap Hill Reserve Forest. It is home to a variety of plants, animals and birds and provides some of the best bird-watching experiences in the country. The PA is located in Gazipur and Ranigaon unions of Chunarughat Upazila of Habigonj district; in south and west bounded by Indian province of Tripura. Biodiversity of the PA consist 167 birds, 7 amphibians, 18 reptiles, and 37 species of mammals whereas cultural diversity is very rich with four different ethnic communities with diversified cultures.

The sanctuary is surrounded by a large population from 60 villages, who depend on sanctuary's natural resources in various degree, including firewood, cane and bamboo, timber, and sun grass as well as agriculture. Land encroachment for farming and housing and illicit tree felling are the main threats to the sanctuary. On the foundation of NSP, the Project (IPAC) was launched since 2008 with the view to demonstrate replicability for establishing a good governance system that will ensure sustainable co-management of protected areas of Bangladesh. A co-management platform including a reformed CMC, 45 village conservation forums, a Peoples' Forum, 05 Community patrolling groups (CPG), and 05 Youth Clubs are functioning currently.

The CMC is registered with the Social Welfare Department as an NGO to attract donor support; alternative income generation/value chain (AIGA/VC) activities with support from Arannayk Foundation are continuing and 44 ICSs have been installed through GIZ support. Training programs were conducted to develop skills of the local community, and awareness programs were organized on illicit felling, encroachment, climate change, global warming, etc. Due to remoteness and difficult communication, eco-tourism has yet not developed in a significant level, though the project supported training of Eco-Guides, building an eco-cottage for tourists and construction of a tourist shop.

In the Project Year 4 the Rema-Kalenga Team will reinforce facilitation of the capacity building of NSs, CMCs, VCFs, PFs, CPGs and other stakeholders, climate change assessment and adaptation planning, reforestation and habitat restoration, eco-tourism facilities and network links, PA entry fee implementation, strengthening of ICS, etc. Also the Site Team will be continuing its regular efforts for development of alternative livelihoods through a conservation-linked AIG/VC framework, and LDF & leverage financing projects, and strengthening of communication and outreach services.

Kahdimnagar National Park

Khadimnagar National Park, located 15 km northeast from Sylhet in Khadimnagar Union of Sylhet Sadar Upazila, is under the jurisdiction of Khadimnagar Beat of North Sylhet Range-1 of Sylhet Forest Division. In 2006 the reserve forest was declared as Khadimnagar National Park (KNP) through a gazette notification. The forest is a semi deciduous tropical forest where tall trees are deciduous and the under storey evergreen and covered mostly with natural pecha bamboo. The park area is surrounded by 22 villages (with 12,500 HHs) covering three unions, and local people have varied degree of stakes in the Park's forest resources. Also the Park is surrounded by 6 tea estates and ethnic communities (Patra Samprodai) reside in 6 villages. The forest has a total of 217 species of plants, and 20 amphibians, 9 reptiles, 28 birds and 26 species of animals (Macaque, Capped languor, Wild fox, Monkeys, Jungle fowl, common Mongoose, Fishing cat, White backed vulture, Brahmin kite, Moyna, Python, Wildfowl, Cobra, Dhanesh, Dove, Eagle, Mathura, Vultures, etc.). The forest is rich especiallly in bamboo and cane but

population growth is putting biotic pressure. Main threats to the Park include illicit felling, indiscriminate fuel wood/ bamboo/cane/sun grasses collection, coal preparation, forest land encroachment and poaching.

IPAC is working to promote and institutionalize co-management system for sustainable NRM and biodiversity conservation and the co-manaegment platform developed includes 22 VCFs, a Peoples' Forum, and a CMC. A CMC office is being set upwithin the FD Beat Office premises. The conservation-linked AIG/VC activities are continuing and in March/11 a LDF grant is provided to the CMC for demonstrating Mushroom cultivation by gainfully involving forest depentdent HHs. Accordingly technical skill development training is imparted by leveraging with Sylhet Horticulture Center and Mushroom development and marketing cooperative. Besides, for developing eco-tourism, some tourist facilities such as trail brochure and signboards have been put in place. More than one thousand tourists including expatriots visted KNP during PY 3.

In the Project Year 4 main activities and outcomes will include attainting sustainability of co-management platform, facilitation of the capacity building of NSs, VCFs, PFs, CMOs and other stakeholders, climate change assessment and adaptation planning, development of drinking water facilities, habitat restoration, tourism facilities and network links, PA entry fee system, strengthening ICS, etc. Also, Site Team will be continuing its regular efforts for development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, LDF projects, and strengthening communication and outreach services.

Hail Haor (including Baikka beel Permanent Sanctuary)

Hail Haor is located in Sreemongal Upazila and partly Moulvibazer Sadar Upazila of Moulvibazer district, and anticline between the Balishira and Borshijora hills to the East and the Satgaon hills to the west. This wetland is fed by 350 hilly streams which originate in the surrounding hills and the Gopla River is the only outlet with water flows to Bijna river. The watershed area of the haor is about 600^2 kilometers, including 60 villages with 30,000 households comprising above 172,000 population. Most of the community people are dependent on the haor in various ways: fishing for livelihood and protein intake, farming, grasses for cattle and thatching, fodder, firewood, herbal medicine, etc.

Hail Haor covers about 14,000 ha in the wet season but in the dry season the water area falls to nearly 4,000 ha.. It comprises 130 *beels* and individual water bodies such as canals. Formerly the Haor was connected with Kushiara and Monu rivers but has now lost the connection due to construction of series of flood control dykes and sluice gates. It has recognition as a globally important wetland for its rich biodiversity (the home to 98 fish species and 160 bird species) and recently the Bird Life International has listed it as an "Important Bird Area".

The USAID supported MACH (Management of Aquatic ecosystem through Community Husbandry) project was launched by DoF during June 1999, and continued up to June 2010 with a follow up phase. IPAC included Hail haor since its inception (2008) as a direct implementation site. For sustainable management of the wetland resources, 8 Resource Management Organizations (RMOs), registered with the Department of Social Welfare and including representatives of local fishers and farmers, men and women, poor and local elites, are operating in the Haor areas. With the support of the project 21 water bodies (486 ha), with 14 fish sanctuaries (65 ha), are being managed by the RMOs under an MOU with the MoL through MoFL. Baikka beel has been declared as a permanent fish sanctuary during July 2003. Besides RMOs, 107 RUGs of 2293 resource users/fishers are functioning with financial support from their five federations (FRUGs) which were provided revolving funds under MACH.

IPAC cluster team has been providing utmost support to the RMOs and FRUGs to play their role effectively in the management of Hail Haor resources but the following issues have emerged for their resolution:

- ✓ Duration of some leases for managing the water bodies have not duly extended yet, this might create vacuum of authority for the RMOs
- ✓ Frequent drought affects the habitat quality for fishes, especially as it reduces water depth in the beels, which makes common people greedy to poach fishes

In the Project Year 4, Hail Haor Team will implement capacity building of RMOs, FRUGs, RUGs and other stakeholders, climate change assessment and adaptation planning, habitat restoration, eco-tourism facilities and network links, strengthening of ICS, etc. RMOs will be supported in developing and implementing the endowment supported haor and community development projects by following up with Upazila Fisheries Committees. Similarly all the FRUGs will be supported in smooth implementation of revolving funds that will be used in carrying our AIG/VC activities by the RUG members. Communication and outreach services will be strengthened. IPAC local partner CNRS will take special efforts in developing facilities for which Winrock has already transferred funds.

Tanguar Haor (ECA & RAMSAR site)

Tanguar Haor, one of the country's resource rich wetland, comprises with 51 beels associated with 3 major rivers (Boulai, Patlai, Rajar dair). Located at the foot of Meghalaya hill range, it has a total area of 9,727 ha, provisioning livelihood support to 10,205 households 56,000 people living in 88 villages. Due to its status as an ECA and RAMSAR site, the GoB in 2001 decided to put in place a community based management system by transferring its ownership from Ministry of Land (MoL) to the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) under the supervision of the District administration. The haor ecosystem accommodates 73 floral species including reeds, shrubs, grasses & tree species; 141 fresh water native fish species; 11 amphibians; 34 reptiles and 208 species of birds.

Since 2007 under the authority of DoE with SDC's financing support, three environmental NGOs (IUCN, CNRS and CBSMTHP) are implementing a technical project for developing capacity of local people and members of local government such as UPs in wise use of natural resource according to RAMSAR principle, uplifting livelihood status and policy advocacy. Four water bodies have been declared as permanent sanctuaries and seedlings of swamp species have been planted over 06 ha. Joint revenue sharing mechanism is developed and being practiced (benefits distribution as: Fishers-40%, CMO-36% and GoB-24%), and about 68 lac BDT is deposited in CMOs account. In addition, 28 types of AIG activities are practicing by using more than one crore fund gathered from members' regular savings. These activities are operating under the lead role of the central committee within which 04 Union committees and 80 nature conservation groups are operating.

IPAC Team is working in collaboration with CBSM-TH Team and providing support to facilitate the existing institution framework for strengthening co-management as well as networking with other nature conservation GO and NGO institutions. During PY 3 IPAC cluster team was busy with facilitating regular organizational works, awareness campaign, small scale AIGA input support (home gardening), and exposure visits.

In the Project Year 4, Tanguar Haor Team will reinforce facilitation of the capacity building of CMOs and will continue supporting them in order to achieve their sustainability. Other important field activities will include implementation of conservation-linked AIG/VC activities in one of the 4 union committee

areas and conducting a number of cross site visits to Hail Haor in order to demonstrate co-management approach that has become so successful. LDF grant will be provided to this union committee and leveraging and networking efforts will continue.

Hakaluki Haor

Hakaluki Haor, the largest haor in the South Asia and one of the most important as mother fisheries, supports around 2 lac people for their livelihood. It covers Barolekha, Kulaura and Juri Upazilas of Moulvibazar district and part Fenchugonj and Golabgonj Upazilas of Sylhet district, with anticline between Bhatera hills in west, and Patharia and Madhob hills in the east. Surrounding people are dependent on the haor in various ways: fishing for livelihood and protein intake, farming, cattle grazing, fodder, firewood, etc**.** Over the period of 50 years, the haor has reached at a state of critical condition of degradation due to over extraction of resources, natural/human accelerated sedimentation and human pressure. In recognition of need for protection Hakaluki Haor, in 1999 was declared as an "Ecologically Critical Area" (ECA) covering 40,000 ha in rains; the waters in dry season reduce to approximately 6,000 ha. It has 276 beels and the Haor is fed by 7 major canals which drain out to the mighty Kushiara River through Juri River.

This Hoar is recognized as globally important wetland for its rich biodiversity and is habitat to globally threatened bird species (the home to 107 fish species, 526 plant species and 558 wildlife species). DoE under MoEF launched "Coastal and Wetland Biodiversity Management Project" (CWBMP) with the support of GEF-UNDP with the main objectives of ensuring the conservation and sustainable use of globally significant wetland biodiversity through management as ECAs during November 2003 to December 2010. Under the project, 28 (21 registered) VCGs (village conservation group) have been formed by including 953 local fishers, farmers, poor and local elites, who are responsible for managing the haor resources and it's ecosystem with technical support from the DoE. Union & Upazila level ECA committee are extending help in protection of around 1,000 ha. natural regeneration of swamp trees (coppice management), planted 132,893 swamps and 30,000 riparian trees. As seed fund, the project granted BDT 38,00,000 to 28 VCGs for continuing organizational, community level activities, providing AIGs support in different farm trades for livelihood enhancement of poor, and focusing on biodiversity conservation. Another nature conservation project under DoE with the support of CCTF (Climate Change Trust Fund) is going to launch covering the ECA.

Hakaluki Haor is included as an indirect implementation PA and IPAC field activities have continued in coordination with the DOE Team under CWBMP by employing existing CMOs for strengthening co-management platform as well as networking with other nature conservation government and non-government agencies and institutions. During PY 3, IPAC cluster team was busy with facilitating regular organizational works, awareness campaign, small scale AIGA input support (home gardening), exposure visits. In October 2010 a permanent fish sanctuary covering 05 water bodies was declared in Hakaluki Haor.

Priority outcomes for PY- 4 include the following:

- ✓ **Increased Capacity of CMOs for effective co-management**:
  Over the next year, with IPAC supports, Sylhet Cluster will be targeting sustainability by focusing on capacity building of the co-management platforms. With the establishment and/or renovation of CMO Offices, the cluster will facilitate Social Welfare Affairs' registration of the new CMC at Khadimnagar. It will continue participation and facilitation of regular periodical meetings of CMCs,

Council, RMOs, FRUGs, CUCs, ECAs, VCFs/VCCs/VCGs, PFs, CPGs, NSs, and the GoB stakeholders (FD, DoE, DoF). Coordination meetings as well to building skills and commitment necessary for sustaining co-management of Sylhet cluster PAs will continue in all the sites.

The cluster will conduct and facilitate a number of orientations/trainings/TOTs, exposure visits for the skill and capacity development of co-management organizations for effective co-management. Possible topics/courses will include conservation and development, co-management and conservation, AIG/VC, landscape development, grant funds programs, participatory monitoring, organizational and financial management, global climate change adaptation, co-management policies, etc. Also, Sylhet cluster will facilitate development and submission of 2 LDF supported project proposals from its wetland/ECAs so to develop project implementation skills and strong financial support. Also, the cluster will continue technical supports to the concerned CMCs for smooth implementation and monitoring of the projects funded by Arannayk Foundation, and LDF granted project.

- ✓ **Improved conservation management of Protected Areas**:
  The Cluster will initiate a range of bio-physical interventions and outreach activities during PY4 including landscape identification and mapping, Co-Management Plans development and implementation; plantation maintenance and new forestation according to the revised Social Forestry Rules, 2010, and 20,000 saplings distribution to landscape households. Also, the cluster will collaborate with Forest Dept. in the formation/reformation of CPGs for forests protection, and also facilitating wetland sanctuary guarding, providing them training and support materials for making joint patrolling functional.

  Sylhet cluster will identify and develop Improved Cooking Stoves producer groups (5 to 10 Producers per Site) throughout the PAs and facilitate training and logistics support to them for expanding adoption of 1,600 ICS, with benefits of increased efficiency in fuel wood consumption, resulting in reduced pressure from fuel wood collection in adjacent protected areas. A range of awareness activities will be continuing at landscapes levels including 18 Interactive Popular Theater shows/Folk Songs, 11 Trail Hiking, 13 Sharing meetings with stakeholders and journalists, 11 Mass gatherings, 5 sites/time 'miking', 5 national/international day observation.

- ✓ **Increased number of people benefiting from AIG/VC activities**:
  In the PY4, IPAC Sylhet Cluster will target an additional 2,250 households through 75 new VCFs/ VCGs/VCCs as part of conservation-linked AIG/VC initiatives for PA-dependent poor population, emphasizing fish culture, and vegetables cultivation, tailoring, and bamboo handicrafts to generate increased income as well as to enrich the nutritional value of diets in landscape areas. Also, a number of PA landscape households will be benefitted from homestead vegetable cultivation with IPAC supports.

  The cluster will arrange adequate technical supports to all new and existing VCFs/HHs for successful implementation and better achievement includes AIG orientations, field progress update by 75 Nishorgo Shohayaks, NSs monthly meetings, local expert suggestions at 2 separate field days, establishing market linkages.

- ✓ **Increased benefits of eco-tourism opportunities for PA-dependent communities**:
  Over the PY4, Sylhet Cluster will support and contribute to achieve IPAC's eco-tourism value chain by concentrating on responsible eco-tourism communication campaign. The cluster will continue facilitation for strengthening PA entry fee system and 50% benefit sharing and will target 9 private entrepreneurs to develop eco-cottages. Other facilities including student dormitory, nature

interpretation centers and tourist shops both for forest and wetland PAs will also be targeted. The cluster will facilitate training to develop 52 community eco-guides, and link them to the national and regional tourism organizations/sectors. It will facilitate establishing eco-facilities including trail development, PA entry gate, ticket counter, toilets, vehicle parking, picnic spot, sheds, bridges, sitting benches, stream development and hiking, promotional materials, etc. especially for Khadimnagar National Park. Sylhet Cluster will facilitate on-going fundraising for CONIC so that this visitor's center can be established and started as a tourism attraction. Tourism Carrying Capacity Study for Lawachara National Park will be taken up to look for options for spreading-out tourism within the park as well as to neighboring PAs.

- ✓ **Development of GCC Adaptation Plans**:
  This year, Sylhet Cluster will facilitate IPAC's Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan Development initiatives throughout 135 VCFs at forestland and 130 VCGsVCCs at Wetlands PAs through regular monthly consultation meetings, facilitated by Nishorgo Shahayaks who will be imparted relevant TOTs. These plans will be shared with the GoB stakeholders and co-management platforms through meetings and mass gathering sessions. For developing awareness among landscape populations, and to facilitate adaptation strategies with the provision of direct or leverage financing from local government, focused efforts will be made for awareness and motivation. The Cluster Team will facilitate local community for fresh water for drinking and households use through 20 Tube-wells, 5 Dug-wells, 5 Old ponds excavation, 2 natural streams establishment and maintenance for the PA dependent communities.

2.3.4 Sundarbans Cluster

The world's largest mangrove forests, the Sundarbans including the 3 Wildlife Sanctuaries, and the Sundarbans ECA are covered in this IPAC Cluster. The Sundarbans has off late gained full attention of the Govt. and Donor communities due mainly to its diverse biodiversity and high significance as source of ecosystems services including carbon financing. The flagship species, the Royal Bengal Tiger resides in the Sundarbans and it is one of the highest tiger dense forests in the world. The Sundarbans is located adjacent to the Bay of Bengal and so performs as the natural fencing for the coastal areas and Bangladesh from high tides, storms and cyclones. The Cluster is in the south western part of Bangladesh and covers 3 districts (Satkhira, Khulna and Bagerhat) and 10 Upazilas. The cluster comprises of 4 Protected Areas, including 3 Wildlife Sanctuaries in the Sundarbans and 1 ECA adjoining the Sundarbans. The total area of Sundarbans Reserved Forest (SRF) is 600,017 ha which includes the PAs area of 199,299 ha. The landscape area is about 160km in length and 10km wide where IPAC is carrying out activities. There are about 104,429 households and 708,291 people in the coastal surroundings of the Sundarbans. The Forest department has 1 circle, 2 divisions, 4 ranges, 17 stations, 72 patrol camps and about 1,000 staff for the management of the Sundarbans.

Major threats for the Sundarbans include natural calamities such storms and cyclones, high biotic pressure on the forests, high salinity hampering the land productivity including agriculture, lack of fresh water, illegal felling of trees, tiger & deer poaching, post larvae of prawn & shrimp collection, and destructive and over fishing. The pirates are also a big concern for the Sundarbans dwellers, especially for the poor resource collectors. The reduction of dependency of the local people from the Sundarbans is a big challenge as there is little opportunity of effective alternative livelihoods and measures. Fisheries have huge impact on the Sundarbans economy and people living around the Sundarbans landscape have a

stake on it. The tourism is quite rich and very prominent in the Sundarbans due major flagship attraction for foreign and local tourists. The cluster Team focused on building up the capacity of 2 newly formed CMCs and VCFs/PFs of the Sundarbans East Division. Close coordination with GoB and FD officials have continued for the motivation of Government agencies staff for conservation through co-management. The conservation through a range of PA awareness and social mobilization activities have continued for 156 VCFs functioning with the capacity building supports from IPAC. A range of alternative livelihoods improvement activities has been taken up for participatory conservation through co-management. Also, the cluster facilitated development of Pond Sands Filtering (PSF) opportunities to landscape families for having hygienic drinking water.

During the Year 4, the capacity enhancement and sustainability of CMCs will be the main concerns of the cluster, and it will reinforce facilitation of the capacity building of NSs, VCFs, PFs, CMCs, and other stakeholders. Climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning, developing eco-tourism facilities and networking, and establishing PA entry fee system will be taken up on priority basis. Regular efforts for development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, and for facilitating existing and new LDF projects by the CMCs will continue as well as strengthening of communication and outreach services.

Table 5: Sundarbans Protected Areas

Name of PA	GoB Partner	Total Area (hectare)	Upazila/District
Sundarbans West Wildlife Sanctuary	Forest Dept	71,502.10	Shyamnagar/Satkhira
Sundarbans East Wildlife Sanctuary	Forest Dept	31,226	Sarankhola, Morrelgonj, Mongla/Bagerhat
Sundarbans South Wildlife Sanctuary	Forest Dept	36,970.45	Dacope, Koyra/Khulna
Sundarbans Ecologically Critical Area	Dept of Environment	59,600	Sarankhola, Morrelgonj, Mongla/Bagerhat Dacope, Koyra/Khulna Shyamnagar/Satkhira
Total Cluster Areas		199,298.55	

Brief Description of each PA

Sundarbans West Wildlife Sanctuary (Munshigonj)

The IPAC site Munshigonj is responsible for working in the core and buffer zones of the Sundarbans West Wildlife Sanctuary. The PA was declared in 1996 under the Bangladesh Wildlife (Preservation) Order, 1973 (amended in 1974). The PA is under Satkhira Range and the area is 71,502 hectare. The total forest area under the Range is 184,992 ha including 113,490 ha reserve forest. The PA is surrounded by the reserve forests to the east and north, the Bay of Bengal to the south, and the Indian Sundarbans to the west. The landscape area of the site is to the north of the SRF boundary. The landscape, about 35km in length and 5km wide where IPAC, covers 1 district (Satkhira), one Upazila (Shyamnagar), 5 Unions and

44 villages (76 VCF). There are about 26,738 Households and 121,920 people in the landscape. The Forest Department has 4 Station Offices, 10 Patrol Camps and 150 staff for forests management. The Forest Range has the second highest number of tigers (112) among the four Ranges. It is also rich for forest and fisheries resources. Honey resources are significant in this Range of the Sundarbans.

Main threats to the forests for this site are illegal harvesting of trees, tiger & deer poaching, post larvae of prawn & shrimp collection, and destructive and over fishing. The pirates are also a big concern for the Sundarbans dwellers, specially the poor resource collectors. The tiger-human conflict is very high in the area. On an average, 2 tigers are killed by human and 5 people are killed by tiger per year. Most of the landscape area has been transformed to shrimp farms which are controlled by rich and powerful people. As a result traditional practices of agriculture activities have reduced and the scope of land-based activities for poor people is limited. Most of the people remain unemployed and is dependent on the natural resources of the Sundarbans for livelihood. Increase of salinity in the area is a big problem for the Sundarbans. Scope of agriculture is reducing day by day and there is scarcity of drinking water. The Sundari trees are reducing in the forest and natural balance of the Sundarbans in the area is getting imbalanced. The tourism in the site has an increasing trend over the last 7 years. The number of tourist increase in 2009-10 was 103% compared to 2004-05. In the 9 month of 2010-11 the tourist number has been 28,159 while the number for 2009-10 was 20,214, which is a very high increase. Main focus in PY-3 was on establishing co-management platform and there has been a good progress. All the base work for laying out foundation for the co-management organizations like VCF formation, PF formation, and category-wise CMO member selection have been completed. Because of the recent UP election, the process of CMO declaration is delayed.

In the Project Year 4, the two CMCs in the Sundarbans West Division will be formed in the 1st quarter. After which the capacity building of the new CMCs will be taken on priority basis. Climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning, forestation at household/road side, eco-tourism facilities and network links, PA entry fee system will be taken up in gainful association with the CMOs. Also Site Team will be continuing its regular efforts for development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework and LDF projects. Communication and outreach services will be arranged for the mobilization of local community for biodiversity conservation.

Sundarbans East Wildlife Sanctuary

Sarankhola

The IPAC site Sarankhola is working in the Sundarbans East Wildlife Sanctuary (SEWS), which was declared in 1996 under the Bangladesh Wildlife (Preservation) Order, 1973 (amended in 1974). The PA is under the Sarankhola Range and the area is 31,227 hectare. The total forest area under the Range is 130,998 ha including 99,771 ha reserved forest. The Range area is bounded by the Baleswar river to the East, the Bay of Bengal to the south, Khulna Range forests to the lower west, Chandpai Range forests to the upper west, and main land landscape to the north. The landscape area is about 25km in length throughout the SRF periphery and 5km wide. It should be mentioned that two other districts (Pirojpur and Borguna) and two Upazilas (Mothbaria and Patharghata) are also under the Range and cover landscape. IPAC is working only in the landscape of Sarankhola Upazila of Bagerhat district. The working landscape area covers 4 unions and 21 villages (21 VCF) covering 24,440 Households with 134,420 people. The Forest department has 3 Station Offices and 13 Patrol Camps with about 175 staff for forests management under the Range. The PA and the Range area are very rich in both in forest and wetland biodiversity. There are tigers (49), deer, wild boar, monkey and many species of birds in the forest. The forest vegetation covers sundari, gewa goran, bain and the golpata (nypha) as major species.

There are three major rivers and many large canals which support many fish species including the Hilsa. The tourism in the site is vessel and overnight stay-based. The prominent places of tourist visits are Kochikhali, Kotka and Jamtala beach. There is an effective flood control embankment over the periphery of the landscape towards the Sundarbans and the saline water intrusion is low in Sarankhola area. There are some agricultural activities in the landscape and mainly with one crop. The scope of expanding AIG value chain or market flows that can effectively initiate livelihoods or employment for the poor and Sundarbans dependent people is reasonable in the site. Especially there are many ponds that can be used for fish culture.

IPAC started working in the Sarankhola site from December 9, 2008 with site office at Tafalbari Bazar, about 10km towards south from the Upazila HQ. At present, a total of 4 program staff (SC, SF, FO-2) are in place. The main focus in last two and half years was on establishing co-management platform and there has been quite good progress. All the base work for laying out the foundation for the co-management like VCF formation, PF formation, CMC Council and committee formation have been completed. The CMC has been formed on April 10, 2010 which is more than a year old now.

Chandpai

The IPAC site Chandpai is working for the Sundarbans East Wildlife Sanctuary (SEWS). As such the site has no PA area under the Range but the CMC is actively conserving the part Sundarbans Reserve Forest. The SEWS as PA was declared in 1996 under the Bangladesh Wildlife (Preservation) Order, 1973 (amended in 1974). The site is under Chandpai Range of Sundarbans East Division and the area is 100,021 ha. The forests and wetlands are rich in floral and faunal biodiversity. The site is surrounded by the Sarankhola Range forest area to the east and south, mainland landscape to the north, and the reserved forest of Khulna Range to the west. The landscape area of the site is to the north just after the reserve forest ends, and is about 50km in length and 5km wide where IPAC is carrying out activities. It covers 2 districts (Khulna & Bagerhat), three Upazilas (Dacope, Mongla and Morrelgonj), 5 Unions and 29 villages (34 VCF) with about 24,440 Households and 134,420 people in the landscape. The Forest Department has 4 station offices, 22 patrol camps and about 200 staff for the forests management under the Range. The tourism is very prominent in Chandpai Range and there are two tourist spots, Kanramjal and Harbaria which are suitable for day trip and many tourist visits there.

IPAC started working in the Chandpai site from December 9, 2008. At present, a total of 3 program staff (SF, FO-2) are in place. The main focus in last two and half years was on establishing co-management and there has been quite good progress. All the base work for laying out foundation for the co-management like VCF formation, PF formation, CMC Council and committee formation have been completed. The CMC has been formed on February 04, 2010 which is about one and half year old.

In the Project Year 4, focusing on the visible impacts to sustaining the CMOs, IPAC will reinforce facilitation of the capacity building of NSs, CMCs,VCFs, PFs and other stakeholders, climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning, development of drinking water facilities, habitat restoration, eco-tourism facilities and network links, PA entry fee system, and strengthening of ICS, etc. Also, IPAC Cluster/Site Teams will be continuing its regular efforts for development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, and LDF projects in the selective areas, and strengthening of communication and outreach services.

Sundarbans South Wildlife Sanctuary (Dacope-Korya)

The IPAC site Dacope-Koyra is working for the Sundarbans South Wildlife Sanctuary (SSWS). The PA was declared in 1996 under the Bangladesh Wildlife (Preservation) Order, 1973 (amended in 1974). The

PA is under Khulna Range and the area is 36,970 hectare. The total forest area under the range is 161,345 ha including 124,375 ha reserved forest. The PA is surrounded by the SEWS to the east, the Bay of Bengal to the south, the SWWS to the west and the reserved forest to the north. The landscape area of the site to the north after the reserved forest is about 50km in length and 5km wide where IPAC is carrying out activities. The landscape area covers 1 district (Khulna), two Upazilas (Dacope & Koyra), 10 Unions and 114 villages with about 50,811 Household and 217,531 people. The Forest Department has 9 station offices, 19 patrol camps and 220 staff for forests management under the Range.

The site is the highest in the number of tigers (147) among the four Ranges. It is also rich in forests and fisheries resources. Because of the shrimp farming in the main land and reduction in agriculture activities, the potential for land-based activities for poor people has been reduced. The cyclone *Aila* in May 2009 made huge damage, making people homeless and property less. Many of them are still residing on the embankments, with highly distressed life. The 06 unions (Sutarkhali, Dakkin Bedkashi, Uttar Bedkashi, Koyra, Moharajpur and Moharsharipur) that IPAC is working with under Dacope and Koyra Upazila, were highly affected by cyclone *Aila*; people are suffering with extreme food deficiency, drinking water, shelter and others. The embankment and other infrastructures of the area have not been repaired or reconstructed. Most of the people remain unemployed and are dependent on the natural resources of thye Sundarbans for livelihood.

IPAC started working in the site in since December 2009 with limited scale and the Team has conducted the site appraisal (PRA) by the staff from Munishigonj site (SWWS). At present, a total of 5 program staff (SC, SF, FO-3) are in place. The main focus in PY-3 was on awareness raising on conservation and laying out foundation for the co-management. As of May 15, 2011, 48 VCF and a Nishorgo club have been formed. On conservation awareness, 15 meetings have been organized at VCF level, 2 Nishorgo network orientation at Upazila level and orientation to religious leaders have been organized.

In the Project Year 4 a CMC will be formed and oriented. The SEWS (Sarankhola and Chandpai) Team will reinforce facilitation of the capacity building of VCFs, PFs, CMC and other stakeholders, climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning, drinking water facilities, forestation at landscape households, eco-tourism facilities and network links, PA entry fee system, strengthen ICS, etc. Also Site Team will be continuing its regular efforts for development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, and LDF project implementation, and strengthening communication and outreach services.

Priority outcomes for PY- 4 include the following:

- ✓ **Increased Capacity of CMOs for effective co-management**:
  Over the next year, with IPAC supports, the Sundarbans Cluster will be focusing on capacity building of its co-management platforms. With the establishment and/or renovation of CMO Offices, the cluster will facilitate Social Welfare Affairs' Registration of new CMCs. It will continue participation and facilitation of regular periodical meetings of CMCs, Council, VCFs, PFs, NSs and the GoB stakeholders (FD, DoE, DoF) coordination meetings as well to build skills and commitment necessary for sustaining co-management of the Sundarbans.

  The cluster will conduct and facilitate a number of orientations/trainings/TOTs, and exposure visits for the skill and capacity development of its co-management organizations and staff members for effective co-management. In this connection possible topics/courses will include conservation and development, co-management, AIG/VC framework, landscape development program, participatory monitoring, organizational and financial management, global climate change adaptation, co-management policies, etc. Also the Sundarbans cluster Team will facilitate development and submission of 2 LDFs project proposals from new CMCs (based on CMC formation at West and

South Sanctuaries) so as to develop project implementation and financial skills. The cluster will continue technical supports to the concerned CMCs for smooth implementation and monitoring of the existing LDF projects.

- ✓ **Improved conservation management of Protected Areas**:
  To continue improved conservation of Protected Area, the Cluster will initiate a range of bio-physical and outreach activities during PY4 including landscape identification and mapping, the IRMP implementation; seedlings distribution for plantations at 1,800 Households. Also, the cluster will collaborate with Forest Dept to form CPGs wherever necessary and provide them training and support materials for making joint patrolling functional. Sundarbans cluster will identify and develop Improved Cooking Stoves producer groups (5 to 10 Producers per Site) throughout the PAs and facilitate training and logistics support to them for expanding adoption of 1,250 ICSs, with benefits of increased efficiency in fuel wood consumption, resulting in reduced pressure from fuel wood collection in adjacent forests. A range of awareness activities will be continuing in the landscape including 72 Interactive Popular Theater Shows/Folk Songs, 4 Trail Hiking by students, spot based 24 Mass gatherings, 21 times Miking with printing materials distribution, 5 different Day's observations, 40 Wall writings, 230 Signboards, 14 Billboards, and 8 School programs.

- ✓ **Increased number of people benefiting from AIG/VC activities**:
  In the PY4, IPAC Sundarbans Cluster will target additional 1,800 households through 60 new VCFs as part of conservation-linked AIG/VC initiatives for PA-dependent poor population, emphasizing fish culture, and vegetables cultivation, tailoring, and bamboo handicrafts to generate increased income as well as to enrich the nutritional value of diets in landscape areas. Also, a number of PA landscape households will be benefitted from homestead vegetable cultivation with IPAC support. The cluster will arrange adequate technical supports to all new and existing VCFs/HHs for successful implementation and better achievements, which will include AIG orientations through 60 Nishorgo Shahayaks, NSs monthly meetings, local expert suggestions at 2 separate field days, and establishing market linkages.

- ✓ **Increased benefits of eco-tourism opportunities for PA-dependent communities**:
  Over the PY4, Sundarbans Cluster will support and contribute to achieving Eco-Tourism Value Chain work by concentrating an appropriate communications campaign. The cluster will facilitate to establish at least 2 private entrepreneurs to develop eco-lodges and tourist shops. Also, the cluster will facilitate training to develop 56 community eco-guides, and link them to the National and Regional tourism operators/sectors. In the upcoming year, the cluster will ensure necessary efforts to facilitate the Sundarbans CMCs to work in association with the respective DFOs/CFs for entry fee collection so that the revenue can be collected and shared (50:50 ratio as per Govt. rules), between Forest Dept and the respective CMCs for livelihoods improvement for local community as well as for addressing climate change adaptation. The cluster Team will distribute eco-tourism related promotional/briefing materials to attract tourists throughout all PAs.

- ✓ **Development of GCC Adaptation Plans**:
  This year the Sundarbans Cluster will facilitate IPAC's Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan Development initiatives throughout 156 VCFs. AN adaptation plan per VCF/Village will be developed based on conducting assessment through regular monthly VCF meetings, facilitated by Nishorgo Shahayaks. The plans will be shared with the GoB stakeholders and co-management platforms through meetings, and mass gathering sessions, with the purpose to develop awareness among landscape populations, and facilitate adaptation strategies with the provision of direct or leverage financing from local government. Additionally, the cluster will facilitate fresh water supply for drinking and households use through implementation of 6 ponds de-

watering, 8 ponds re-excavation, 40 Pond Sand Filtering establishment and maintenance FOR the PA dependent communities. Also, the cluster will facilitate weather signals orientation to CMOs, NSs, and NCs members.

2.3.5 South Eastern Cluster

IPAC Southeastern Cluster, the largest cluster considering the no. of PAs, is situated in the southeastern part of Bangladesh. The longest sea beach in the world, the Bay of Bengal and beautiful hilly river Naf tides over the southeastern cluster and covers the National Park, Wildlife Sanctuaries, and ECA PAs within its geographic focus. Tourists around the World visit here round the year. There are 7 (6 forest PA and 1 ECA) protected areas under this cluster with the total 123,339 hectare area is in the districts of Cox's Bazar and Chittagong, and 3 forest divisions (Wildlife Management and Nature Conservation Division, Chittagong, Cox's Bazar South and North Forest Divisions). The cluster has continued biodiversity conservation through a range of PA awareness and social mobilization activities over 270 VCFs and 9 CMCs, functioning with the capacity building supports from IPAC. A range of alternative livelihoods improvement activities has been taken into action for participatory conservations through co-management.

Table 6: Southeastern Cluster Protected Areas

Name of PA	GoB Partner	Total Area (hectare)	Upazila/District
Chunati Wildlife Sanctuary	Forest Dept	Total Area: 40,772 Core zone: 7,764	Lohagara, Ban'khali/Ctg & Chakaria/Cox's Bazar
Fasiakhali Wildlife Sanctuary	Forest Dept	Total Area: 12,065 Core zone: 1,302	Chakaria/Cox's Bazar
MedhaKachapia National Park	Forest Dept	Total Area: 6,319 Core zone: 396	Chakaria/Cox's Bazar
Himchari National Park	Forest Dept	Total Area: 5,891 Core area: 1,729	Cox's Bazar Sadar/Cox's Bazar
Inani National Park /ECA	Forest Dept	Total Area: 15,844 Core zone 7,700	Ukiiya, Cox's Bazar/Cox's Bazar
Teknaf Wildlife Sanctuary	Forest Dept	Total Area: 32,055 Core zone: 11,615	Teknaf/Cox's Bazar
Teknaf Peninsula Ecologically Critical Area	Dept of Environment	10,465	Cox's Bazar, Ramu, Ulkiya, Teknaf/Cox's Bazar
Total Cluster Areas		123,339	

During the third year, a new CMC has been formed in Himchari National Park, and another new CMC has been formed in Inani Reserved Forest with the financial assistance of Arannyak Foundation. According to the new GO, the cluster has completed reformation of 5 existing CMCs : Chunoti, Jaldi, Teknaf, Whykong, and Shilkhali with the active and strong participation of community stakeholders and government officials. The cluster has leveraged finance from Arannayk Foundation for Inani National Park where a local NGO is working with FD field staff to implement co-management activities for biodiversity conservation.

The Year 4 will be a very important year for the capacity enhancement and sustainability of CMOs that have been developed in the previous years. Southeastern cluster is planning on building off that partnership to scale-up and sustain impacts to effectively facilitate livelihoods development for PA resource-dependent poor people – especially women – through the IPAC co-management platform. The cluster will reinforce facilitation of the capacity building of VCFs, PFs, NSs, CMCs, and other stakeholders, climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning, forestation at roadside and households level, eco-tourism facilities and network links, establishing PA entry fee system, etc. The development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, and facilitating existing and new LDF projects by the CMCs will be main priorities during the year 4. Communication and outreach services will further be strengthened over the next year.

Brief Description of PAs

Chunati Wildlife Sanctuary

The Chunati Wildlife Sanctuary, established in 1986 through a gazette notification (No: XIT/Forest-1/84/174 2 dated 18 March 1986) from the MoEF under the Wildlife (Conservation) (Amendment) Act of 1974, comprises of 7,764 ha reserved forests of Jaldi and Chunati Range under Chittagong Wildlife and Nature Conservation Division. The sanctuary harbors a wide diversity of tropical semi-evergreen flora and fauna and is home to the Asian Elephant. The sanctuary is surrounded by 60 villages with about 44,000 populations, engaged primarily in agriculture. The sanctuary is challenged with some major problems : excessive removal of forest produce, forestland encroachment, brickfields within one km of the sanctuary, local population growing with high growth rate, illiteracy, poverty, scarce drinking water, etc. Since 1984 FD has been maintaining this sanctuary as a conservation site and currently there are 37 staffs who are primarily involved in protection duties.

Since 2004 collaborative management with a multi-stakeholders platform has been introduced under Nishorgo Support Project (NSP). IPAC has been promoting co-management of natural resources of the sanctuary for biodiversity conservation and improving livelihoods of neighbouring population. In this context, IPAC is working with two CMCs formed under the NSP during 2005-2006 (Jaldi CMC in 27 July 2006 and Chunati CMC in 24 Aug 2005). Later in 2010 all these CMCs were reformed (Jaldi on 01 August 2010 and Chunati 31 July 2010) under the framework of new Government Order. The two CMCs cover 60 Village Conservation Forums, 2 People's Forum, 12 Community Patrolling Groups with 259 patrollers who participate in joint forest patrolling with FD, 08 Forest Conservation Clubs, and 60 Nishorgo Shakayaks at village level.

In the Project Year 4, focusing on the visible impacts to sustaining the CMCs, Chunoti WS will reinforce facilitation OF the capacity building of VCFs, PFs, NSs, CMOs, CPGs and other stakeholders, climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning, drinking water facilities, habitat restoration, eco-tourism facilities and network links, strengthening ICS, etc. Site Team will continue its regular efforts for the development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, and LDF and leverage financing

projects. Enhanced focus will be on strengthening communication and outreach services for the stakeholders of Nishorgo Network.

Fasiakhali Wildlife Sanctuary

The Fakshiakhali Wildlife Sanctury (FKWS), established in 2007 through a gazette notification under the Wildlife Preservation order (Amendment) Act of 1974, comprises of 1302 ha reserved forests of Fakshiakhali block, Dulahazara block and Ringbong block areas of Fashiakhali Range of Cox's Bazar North Forest Division. The Wildlife Sanctuary has a wide diversity of tropical semi-evergreen flora and fauna and is home to the Asian Elephant. The Wildlife Sanctuary is an stretched out to the Bay of Bengal to west, Cox,s Bazar–Chittaging high way to east, and in the north and south it is surrounded by Fashiakhali and Dulahazara Mouza areas. There are 30 villages in and around the Sanctuary with about 46,450 population, engaged primarily in agricultural, salt production and fishing.

The Wildlife Sanctuary is challenged with some serious problems: immigration of climate change refugee migrants since 1991, excessive removal of forest produce, forestland encroachment, brickfields within one km of it boundaries, growing population with high rate, illiteracy, poverty, scarce drinking water, etc. Currently there are 19 staffs who are primarily involved in protection duties under Fashiakahali and Dulahazara Beats. Since 2009 collaborative management with a multi-stakeholders platform has been introduced under IPAC project.

IPAC has been promoting co-management of natural resources of the Sanctuary for biodiversity conservation and improving livelihoods of neighbouring population. In this context, IPAC is working with the CMCs, formed on November 17, 2009, as a platform of multi-stakeholders including FD, civil society, local forest users and administration. The CMCs in this park has 30 Village Conservation Forums, 1 People's Forum, 2 Community Patrolling Group with 42 patrollers who participate in joint forest patrolling with FD, and 30 Nishorgo Shahayaks, and a Forest Conservation Club. To ehnance the capacity of the CMOs and other stakeholders, IPAC organized a number of trainings, orientations, exposure visits and specialized workshops focussing on participatory ADP preparation for the CMCs, trainings on co-management, financial and policy issues, networking with GOB agencies, etc. Regular monthly meetings of CMCs, CPGs and VCFs has been conducted and the CPGs have been oriented, dressed/equipped and involved in joint forest patrolling with FD Forest Guards.

In the Project Year 4, Fasiakhali WS Team will reinforce the facilitation of the capacity building of VCFs, PFs, NSs, CMCs, CPGs and other stakeholders. Other important outcomes and activities will include climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning, development of drinking water facilities, habitat restoration, eco-tourism facilities and network links, strengthening ICS, development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, and LDF project development and implementation, and strengthening of communication and outreach services.

Medhakachapia National Park

The Medhakachaphia National Park (MKNP) was established in 2004 through a gazette notification from the MoEF of People Republic of Bangladesh under the Wildlife Preservation order (Amendment) Act of 1974. The park is recently renamed as The Medakaccaphia National Park (MKNP) by gazette notification No: MOEF/Forest-03-32/2003/356 dated April 4, 2004. The park comprises of 395.92 ha reserved forests of Medakaccaphia and Kutakhali mouza areas of Funchari Range under Cox's Bazar North Forest Division.

The park has a wide diversity of tropical semi-evergreen flora and fauna and is home to the Asian Elephant. The park is stretched out to Bay of Bengal to west, Cox,s Bazar–Chittaging high way to east, and north and south surrounded by Medakaccaphia and Kutakhali Mouza area. There are 13 villages in and around the park with about 18305 population, engaged primarily in agricultural, salt production and fishing. The park is challenged with some grave problems: climate refugee migrants coming in since 1991, excessive removal of forest products, forest encroachment, brickfields within one km of the park, growing population with high growth rate, illiteracy, poverty, scarce drinking water, etc.

Since 2004 FD has been maintaining this park as NP and currently there are only 10 staffs who are primarily involved in protection duties. Since 2004 collaborative management with a multi-stakeholders platform has been introduced under IPAC project. IPAC has been promoting co-management of natural resources of the park for biodiversity conservation and improving livelihoods of neighbouring population. In this context, IPAC is working with a CMC formed under the IPAC on November 17, 2009. This CMCs is a platform of multi-stakeholders including FD, civil society, local forest users and administration. The CMCs in this park has 13 Village Conservation Forums, 1 People's Forum, 1 Community Patrolling Group with 21 patrollers who participate in joint forest patrolling with FD, and 13 Nishorgo Shakayaks at village level. In PY3 main activities included CMCs formed under new GO, 13 VCFs and 1 PFs formed, and regular monthly meetings of CMCs, CPGs and VCFs. CPGs are functioning after they were oriented and dressed/equipped. They are involved in joint forest patrolling with FD Forest Guards.

Medhakachapia NP Team in the year 4 will reinforce the facilitation of the capacity building of VCFs, PFs, NSs, CMCs, CPGs and other stakeholders. Enhanced focus will be on Global Climate Change vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning, drinking water facilities, habitat restoration, tourism facilities and network links, and on strengthening ICS. Regular efforts will be taken for the development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, and LDF project development and implementation, and strengthening of communication and outreach services.

Himchari National Park

This Park, established in 1980 as Himchari National Park (HNP) through a gazette notification (No. XX/For-63/79/89 dated 15 February 1980, in exercise of the power confered by section 23 of the Wildlife (Preservation) Act of 1973, comprises an area of 1,729 hectare under Cox,s Bazer South Forest Division. Five Forest Beats (Kalatali, Himchari, Jhilongja, Linkroad and Chainda) are represeneted and the Park is surrounded by 35 viilage with 24,373 households having nearly 150,000 people. The park harbors a wide diversity of tropical semi-evergreen flora and fauna and is home to the Asian Elephant. Himchari NP once had lushtropical rain forest, but is now more of grasslands with sporodic trees, and sandy, sun-drenched beach. The park is an elongated hill range towards southern tip of the country and bounded by the Teknaf- Cox'sBazar road in the east, the Bay of Bengal from the west, Cox's bazar city from the north and the Inani National Park form the south. The park is challenged with some grave problems: influx of Rohinga migrants since 1990, excessive removal of forest produce including fuelwood collection for the Cox's Bazar town, land encroachment, growing population with high growth rate, illiteracy, poverty, scarce drinking water, etc. Since 1983 FD has been maintaining this National Park as a conservation site and currently there are only 20 staffs who are primarily involved in protection duties. There is a big waterfall in the NP which is a major tourist attraction.

IPAC has been promoting co-management of natural resources of the park for biodiversity conservation and improving livelihoods of neighbouring population. In the context, IPAC is working with one CMCs formed on 7 July 2010, representing 35 VCFs and a Peoples' Forum. Five CPGs have been formed and

are oriented for community patrolling along with the FD field staff by following the community patrolling guidelines as developed under IPAC. Nishorgo Shahayaks will be trained for conducting VCF meetings and helping in the development of climate change plans. Himchari Team will reinforce the facilitation of the capacity building of VCFs, PFss, CMCs and other stakeholders. Other important outcomes will include development of drinking water facilities, habitat restoration, development of eco-tourism facilities and network links, and strengthening ICS, etc. Development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, and LDF project development and implementation will be prioritized during this year. Communication and outreach services will be extended for the promotion and institutionalization of Nishorgo Network.

Inani National Park

Inani National Park (proposed) comprises an area of 7,700 hectare of evergreen and semi-ever-green tropical forests. The park is Inani Forest Range under Cox's Bazer South Forest Division and covers 4 Forest Beats (Swankhali, Inani, Jalipalong and Rajaplong) It is surrounded by 21 viilages with 13,777 households of papulation 82,000. The park harbors a wide diversity of tropical semi-evergreen flora and fauna and is home to the Asian Elephant. The Park is comprised of patches of lushtropical rain forest, grasslands, and sandy, sun-drenched beach. The park is an elongated hill range towards southern tip of the country and bounded by the Teknaf- Cox'sBazar road in the east, the Bay of Bengal in the west, Himchari NP in the north and TWS in the south. The park is challenged with some grave problems : influx of Rohinga migrants since 1990, excessive removal of forest products, land encroachment, growing population with high growth rate, illiteracy, poverty, scarce drinking water, etc. FD has been maintaining this National Park as a conservation site and currently there are only 15 staffs who are primarily involved in protection duties. There is a stone beach in the NP which is a major attraction to the tourist. IPAC has been working in the Inani National Park since Marh 2009 with coordination and coopeartion of the Inani Protected Forest Area Co-management Project (IPFACMP) funded by Arannayk Foundation.

In the Project Year 4, focusing on the visible impacts to sustaining the CMCs, the Inani Team will collaborate with the IPFACMP Team to reinforce facilitation of the capacity building of CMCs, CPGs and other stakeholders, climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning, habitat restoration, eco-tourism facilities and network links, and to strengthen ICS. Site Teams will continue regular efforts for the development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, in coordination with the AF funded project.

Teknaf Wildlife Sanctuary

The Teknaf Wildlife Sanctuary was established in 1983 as Teknaf Game Reserve (TGR) through a gazette notification from the MoEF under the Wildlife (Conservation) (Amendment) Act of 1973. The Game Reserve is recently renamed as Teknaf Wildlife Sanctuary (TWS) by a notification No: MOEF/Forest-02/wildlife/15/2009/492 dated 09 December 2009. The sanctuary comprises of 11,615 ha reserved forests of Teknaf, Shilkhali and Whykong Ranges under Cox's Bazar South Forest Division. The sanctuary harbors a wide diversity of tropical semi-evergreen flora and fauna and is home to the Asian Elephant. The sanctuary is an elongated hill range towards southern tip of the country and bounded by the Naf River in the east and the Bay of Bengal in the west. The sanctuary is surrounded by 114 villages with about 150,000 populations, engaged primarily in agricultural and fishing. The sanctuary is challenged with some grave problems: influx of Rohinga migrants since 1990, excessive removal of forest products, forestland encroachment, brickfields within one km of the sanctuary, growing population with high growth rate, illiteracy, poverty, scarce drinking water, etc. Since 1983 FD has been maintaining this sanctuary as a conservation site and currently there are 40 staffs who are primarily involved in protection

duties. Since 2004 collaborative management with a multi-stakeholders platform has been introduced under Nishorgo Support Project (NSP).

IPAC has been promoting co-management of natural resources of the sanctuary for biodiversity conservation and improving livelihoods of neighbouring population. In thie context, IPAC is working with three CMCs formed under the NSP during 2005-2006 (Teknaf CMC in 06 Aug 2006, Shilkhali CMC in 29 Sept 2006 and Whykong CMC in 29 Aug 2005). Later, in 2010 all these CMCs were reformed under the framework of new Government Order (Teknaf CMC 25 Oct 2010, Shilkhali CMC in 18 Aug 2010 and Whykong 2 Dec 2010). These CMCs are platforms of multi-stakeholders including FD, civil society, local forest users and administration. The three CMCs in this sanctuary have 114 Village Conservation Forums, 3 People's Forum, 11 Community Patrolling Groups with 419 patrollers who participate in joint forest patrolling with FD, 09 Forest Conservation Clubs, and 114 Nishorgo Shakayaks at village level. In PY3, three CMCs were reformed under new GO, 114 VCFs and 3 PFs were formed, regular monthly meetings of CMCs, CPGs and VCFs were conducted. CPGs have been oriented, dressed/equipped and are involved in joint forest patrolling with FD Forest Guards. Entry fee is being collected since Nov 2009 at Mochani Nature Park.

In the Project Year 4, enhanced focus will be on achieving visible impacts by sustaining the CMCs. Tenknaf WS Team will reinforce facilitation of the capacity building of VCFs, PFs, NSs, CMCs, and other key stakeholders. Other important results will include: Global Climate Change assessment and adaptation planning, drinking water facilities, habitat restoration, eco-tourism facilities and network links, and strengthening ICS program with the assistance of GIZ. Site Team will be continuing its regular efforts for development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, and LDF projects development and implementation. Communication and outreach services will be extended in the landscape with focus on institutionalizing Nishorgo Network.

Priority outcomes for PY- 4 include the following:

- ✓ **Increased Capacity of CMOs for effective co-management**:
  Over the next year, with IPAC supports, Southeastern Cluster will be conducting much efforts by focusing capacity building of its Co-management Platforms. With the establishment and/or renovation/relocation of CMC Offices, the cluster will facilitate Social Welfare Affairs' Registration for new CMCs. It will continue and strengthen regular periodical meetings of CMCs, Council, VCFs, PFs, CPGs, NSs, and GoB Stakeholders (FD, DoE, DoF) coordination meetings as well to build skills and commitment necessary for sustaining co-management of the PAs.

  The cluster will conduct and facilitate a number of orientations/trainings/TOTs, exposure visits for the skill and capacity development of its co-management organizations and staff members to enable taking strong steps towards effective co-management. In this connection, topics/courses will include Conservation and development, Co-management, AIG/VC, landscape development fund program, monitoring, organizational and financial management, global climate change adaptation, Co-management policies, etc. Also the Southeastern Cluster will be facilitating existing landscape development funded projects implementation and will also facilitate development and submission of new 3 LDFs and/or leveraging Donors' project proposals.

- ✓ **Improved conservation management of Protected Areas**:
  To continue Improve Conservation of Protected Area, the Cluster will initiate a range of bio-physical, and outreach activities during PY4 include Landscape demarcation, Map and Management Plan develop and implement; Plantation maintenance and new forestation at 136 hectares according to

Social Forestry Rules. Also, the cluster will collaborate with Forest Dept to formation/reformation of CPGs, provided them training and support materials for making functional to regular joint Patrolling.

Southeastern cluster will identify and develop Improved Cooking Stoves producer groups (5 to 10 Producers per Site) throughout the PAs and facilitate training and logistics support to them for expanding adoption of more than 900 ICS technology, with benefits of increased efficiency in fuel wood consumption, results to the reduced pressure from fuel wood collection in adjacent protected areas. A range of awareness activities will be continue in the landscapes : 8 Interactive Popular Theater Shows/Folk Songs, 18 Trail Hiking by students, 27 Mass gatherings/spot based, 18 times Mikeing with printing materials distribution, 3 different Day's observation, 9 Drawing competitions, Tree & Fish fair participation.

- ✓ **Increased number of people benefiting from AIG/VC activities**:
  In the PY4, IPAC Southeastern Cluster will target additional 2,400 households through 80 new VCFs as part of conservation-linked AIG/VC initiatives for PA-dependent poor population, by emphasizing fish culture, and vegetables cultivation, tailoring, bamboo handicrafts to generate increased income as well as to enrich the nutritional value of diets. The cluster will arrange adequate technical supports to all new and existing VCFs/HHs for successful implementation and better achievement: AIG orientations, field progress update by 80 Nishorgo Shohayaks, NSs monthly meetings, local expert suggestions at 2 separate field days, establishing market linkages. Additionally, a number of PA landscape households will be benefitted from homestead vegetable cultivation with IPAC support.

- ✓ **Increased benefits of eco-tourism opportunities for PA-dependent communities**:
  Over the PY4, Southeastern Cluster will support and contribute to achieving IPAC's eco-tourism value chain work by concentrating on mounting responsible tourism communications campaign. The cluster will facilitate to establish 7 private entrepreneurs to develop eco-lodges, and tourist shops, and other eco-facilities. Also, the cluster will facilitate training to develop 90 community eco-guides, and link them to the National and Regional tourism sectors. The cluster will ensure necessary efforts to facilitating the Southeastern CMCs to work in association with the respective DFOs/CFs for entry fee system development and establishing revenue sharing (50:50 ratio as per Govt. rules, between Forest Department and the respective CMCs) for livelihoods improvement for local community but also climate change adaptation as well. The cluster will distribute tourism related promotional/briefing materials to attract tourists throughout all the PAs.

- ✓ **Development of GCC Adaptation Plans**:
  This year, Southeastern Cluster will facilitate IPAC's Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan Development initiatives throughout 270 VCFs. The cluster will develop 1 adaptation plan per VCF, based on conducting assessment through consultation in regular monthly meetings, facilitated by Nishorgo Shahayaks. The plans will be shared with the GoB Stakeholders and Co-management platforms through meetings and mass gathering sessions, for the purpose to develop awareness among landscape populations, and also facilitate adaptation strategies with the provision of direct or leverage financing from local government. Additionally, the cluster will facilitate for water supply for drinking and households use through tube-well, and other sources.

2.3.6 Chittagong & Chittagong Hill Tracts

Chittagong & CHT Cluster represents its uniqueness of blending National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary PAs and the country's hill forests and beautiful lakes full of biodiversity. The total area of this cluster is about 49190 hectares covering 3 PAs (Kaptai National Park under Chittagong Hills Tract, Dudpukuria-Dhopachari Wildlife Sanctuary under Chittagong South Forest Division, and Sitakunda Reserved Forest under the Sitakunda Botanical Garden Division). The Forest department has 6 Range Offices and 17 Beat Offices for the management of the 3 forest PAs. The PAs harbor ethnic communities and rich biodiversity, and are important for the adoption of appropriate climate change strategies due to their closeness to Bay of Bengal and so the landscape areas are very much vulnerable. The areas are very much renowned for different types of vegetable production, agriculture, pond and lake fish culture, bamboo and handloom products, Jhum cultivation by the ethnic communities is practiced. The area is especially well-known for tourism, hydroelectric project and paper mills, and due to the largest manmade fresh water body in Bangladesh. Local communities depend on nearby forests for wood, and minor forest product like bamboo and bush meat. The neighboring areas are now polluted by the industrial waste and increasing ship breaking industries and face challenges due to illegal felling, forestland encroachment, tobacco cultivation, forest fires and livestock grazing. To conserve the forest and future generation, the PAs requires co-management initiatives to be taken with the local stakeholders and Government.

IPAC has been working in this cluster since 2008 through the CIPD, and in 2010 CODEC has taken over the implementation responsibilities. The cluster continued contribution for conservation through a range of PA awareness and social mobilization activities over 61 VCFs under forestlands, functioning with the capacity building supports from IPAC. Also, a range of alternative livelihoods improvement activities has been taken into action for participatory conservations through co-management. Over the third year, the cluster focused on building up the capacity of CMCs and VCFs/PFs of Kaptai National Park and continued close coordination with GoBs and FD Officials. The Team emphasized formation of Village Conservation Forums (VCF) and Peoples Forums (PF) so as to form new CMCs under DDWS. With the IPAC continued efforts, finally a new CMC was formed at Dudpukuria. The Team initiated field worksa in Sitakunda through consultations and site assessments.

Table 7: Chittagong & CHT Protected Areas

Name of PA	GoB Partner	Total Area (hectare)	Upazilla/District
Kaptai National Park	Forest Dept	Total Area: 43,666 Core zone: 5,464.78	Kaptai/Rangamati
Dudpukuria Dhopachari Wildlife Sanctuary	Forest Dept	Core zone: 4,716.57	Rangunia & Chandanish /Chittagong
Sitakunda Eco Park	Forest Dept	Core zone: 807.75	Sitakunda/Chittagong
Total Cluster Areas		49,190.32	

Brief Description of each PA

Kaptai National Park

Kaptai National Park was established in 1999, and comprises with an area of 5464.78 hectares of hills, valleys and forest. The forests are disappearing rapidly due to mainly intense biotic pressure. Biodiversity influences peoples' economic, social and cultural development and hence their quality of life. The knowledge, culture, traditions, innovations and indigenous management practices of the communities and traditional practice of farmers and rural communities concerning biodiversity are being threatened in Bangladesh by the destruction of forests resources, pollution of natural habitats and failure to recognize the social, economic and cultural value of biodiversity.

IPAC started its activities with the PA since November 2008 and a platform of co-management organizations has been formed that includes 39 VCFs, 02 Peoples' Forum, 02 FCC and two CMCs (Kaptai & Karnafully). The CMCs meet on a monthly basis and have increasingly become active in supporting Forest Department to protect Kaptai National Park. Ten Community Patrol Groups were formed with 114 members and joint patrolling has continued along with FD field staff. The surrounded 39 villages cover with 1885 households that are engaged in multidimensional activities such as agriculture, pond and lake fish culture, vegetable cultivation, and bamboo and handloom products. Jhum cultivation by the ethnic communities and small trade of vegetables are also very well-known income opportunities in this area.

The area is especially well-known for tourism, lakes, and Kaptai Hydroelectric project and Kurnafully Paper Mill project. Kaptai Lake is the largest man-made fresh water body in Bangladesh and its fishes are very well known around the country. The major threats to Kaptai NP include illegal felling of forest resources, traditional *jhum* cultivation, pollution of Kaptai lake, land capture, inhabitation and settlement from others areas, conflict between ethnic community and settlers, forest fires, illegal timber felling for furniture and house constructions, fuel wood extraction for home and brick kilns. Forest Department maintains 10 Beat offices and 2 Range Offices in Kaptai and Kornafully.

In the Project Year 4, focusing on the visible impacts to sustaining the CMOs, Kaptai NP will reinforce facilitation of the capacity building of VCFs, PFs, NSs, CMCs, CPGs and other stakeholders, climate change assessment and adaptation planning, eco-tourism facilities and network links, PA entry fee system, strengthening of ICS. Site Team will be continuing its regular efforts for development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, and LDF project design and implementation. Communication and outreach services will be strengthened to support National Nishorgo Network.

Dudpukuria- Dhopachari Wildlife Sanctuary

Dudpukuria-Dhopachari Wildlife Sanctuary (DDWS), established in 2010, comprises total 4717 hectares. The sanctuary is situated along with the borderline of Chittagong, Rangamati and Bandarban districts. The Wildlife sanctuary is located in the reserve forests of Khurusia and Dohazari Forest Ranges under Chittagong South Forest Division. The sanctuary, accessible from Chittagong metropolitan city by road, is surrounded by eight settlements of Bengali, Marma and Thanchyanga communities, harboring about 1000 households. Most of the people depend on the sanctuary for their fuel wood, timber and minor forest products like bamboo and bush meat. Main challenges to the Sanctuary include : illegal felling, forest fires, forestland encroachment and livestock grazing. To conserve the forests for future generation, the sanctuary requires co-management initiatives to be conducted by the local stakeholders and Government. IPAC started its activities with the PA community mobilization and awareness raising,

initiated to establish co-management platforms. Forest Department maintains 3 Beats Offices and 2 Range Offices in Khurusia and Dohazari Ranges. A CMC has been formed at Dudpukuria and another one will be formed at Dhopachari under DDWS. The VCF, PF, CPG group formation activities are continuing with the collaboration of FD.

Till now 19 VCF have been formed and thier members are engaged in multidimensional AIGA/VC activities such as agriculture, pond fish culture, nursery development, vegetable cultivation and bamboo made product. The major threats to DDWS are illegal felling, forest fires, livestock grazing, and fuel wood of extraction for home and sale.

In the Project Year 4, another CMC will be formed, and support will be provided to develop their capacity and for ensuring livelihoods development of VCF and CPG members. Effective participation of ethnic minorities, women and youth will be prioritized. The planning work on climate change vulnerability assessments and adaptation will be initiated. This will be achieved through regular facilitation of discussions in monthly meetings as well as various site-based, national, and regional training opportunities. Focusing the visible impact to sustaining the CMOs, Dudpukuria-Dopachari WS Team will reinforce facilitation of the capacity building of VCFs, PFs, NSs, CMCs, CPGs and other stakeholders. Global Climate Change vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning will be taken up by the VCFs with support from NSs who will be imparted a TOT. Habitat restoration will be focused and eco-tourism facilities and network links will be developed. Site Team will continue its regular efforts for development of alternative livelihoods through AIG/VC framework, and LDF projects development and implementation. Communication and outreach services will support promotion of National Nishorgo Network.

Sitakunda Eco Park

Sitakunda Eco-Park is situated in Sitakunda Upazilla under Chittagong District and is bounded by Sitakunda Paurashava and Sitakunda Chandranath Mondir (Temple) on the north, hills and Hathazari Upazilla on the east, Barabkunda Union of Sitakunda Upazilla, Kumira, Bangladesh Military Academy & Fouzdehat Cadet College on the south, and Muradpur Union of Sitakunda Upazilla and Bay of Bengal are on the west. The botanical garden and eco-park area, comprising with 808 hectare, consists of hundreds of hill ranging from 25 meters to 400 meters. The highest peak rises up to 400 meters, where Chandranth Mondir (Temple) is situated. It is very renowned place and every year people from home and abroad (India) come here to offer their prayers. Two waterfalls, Sahasradhara with clear vision, and Suptadhara not seen, are found in these hills.

Sitakunda Botanical Garden and Eco Park is surrounded with settlements, mainly of Bangali and Tripura (nearly 50 families) communities, harboring about 14,612 household. The terrain is undulating with natural forests of rich diversity in flora & fauna, and numerous creeks/streams. The inhabitants depend on Sitakunda hill forest resources for agriculture and other consumption needs. A large number of people visit Sitakunda Botanical Garden and Eco-Park. The development of eco-tourism infrastructures will attract more visitors and ecotourism awareness activities will be planned accordingly. Local administration initiatives and ensuring security of tourist will help the process. Ship breaking industries have adversely impacted the forest and landscape and other threats include illegal felling, forest fires, livestock grazing, forestland encroachment, and timber and fuel wood of extraction for home and sale. IPAC has started its activities with the PA since December 2010 by initiating community mobilization to conserve the Eco park and awareness raising. Total 10 villages are selected in the initial stage in surrounding areas and PRA/RRA survey has been completed.

In the Project Year 4, eco–tourism and awareness initiatives will be implement to conserve the PA by involving local stakeholders and FD field staff. Capacity building of local stakeholders will be developed. Global Climate Change vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning will be taken up in the VCFs through NSs who will be imparted necessary TOT. Habitat restoration will be encouraged. Site Team will be continuing its regular efforts for development of communication and outreach services and implementation.

Priority outcomes for PY- 4 include the following:

- ✓ **Increased Capacity of CMOs for effective co-management**:

  Over the next year, with IPAC supports, Chittagong/CHT Cluster will focus efforts on capacity building of its Co-management Platforms. With the establishment and/or renovation of CMC Offices, the cluster will facilitate Social Welfare Affairs' registration of new CMCs. It will continue participation and facilitation of regular periodical meetings of CMCs, Council, VCFs, PFs, CPGs and NSs. GoB Stakeholders (FD, DoE, DoF) coordination meetings will be held to to build skills and commitment necessary for sustaining co-management of Chittagong/CHT Cluster cluster PAs.

  The cluster will conduct and facilitate a number of orientations/trainings/TOTs, and exposure visits for the skill and capacity development of its co-management organizations and staff members to initiate strong steps towards effective co-management. In this connection, topics/courses will include Conservation and development, Co-management, AIG/VC, landscape development fund program, monitoring, organizational and financial management, global climate change adaptation, Co-management policies, etc. Also, Chittagong/CHT cluster will facilitate development and submission of 2 LDF projects proposals by its new CMCs so as to develop project implementation skills and financial management. Also, the cluster will continue technical supports to the concerned CMCs for smooth implementation and monitoring of the existing landscape development funded projects.

- ✓ **Improved conservation management of Protected Areas**:

  To continue Improved Conservation of Protected Area, the Cluster will initiate a range of bio-physical and outreach activities during PY4, including landscape identification and mapping, and co-management plan development and implementation. The cluster will collaborate with Forest Department for formation/reformation of CPGs, and providing them training and support materials for making joint patrolling functional.

  Chittagong/CHT cluster will identify and develop Improved Cooking Stoves producer groups (5 to 10 Producers per Site) throughout the PAs and facilitate training and logistics support to them for expanding adoption of 400 ICSs, with benefits of increased efficiency in fuel wood consumption, resulting in reduced pressure from fuel wood collection in adjacent protected areas. A range of awareness activities will be continuing at landscape levels, including Trail Hiking by students, miking with printing materials distribution, Day's observations, Art/Essay writing competition/Debate at Schools, and sharing meetings with video show.

- ✓ **Increased number of people benefiting from AIG/VC activities**:

  In the PY4, IPAC Chittagong/CHT Cluster will target additional 1,050 households through 35 new VCFs as part of conservation-linked AIG/VC initiatives for PA-dependent poor population, emphasizing fish culture, and vegetables cultivation, tailoring, and bamboo handicrafts to generate increased income as well as to enrich the nutritional value of diets in landscape areas. The cluster will arrange adequate technical supports to all new and existing VCFs/HHs for successful

implementation and better achievement, including AIG orientations, field progress update by 35 Nishorgo Shohayaks, NSs monthly meetings, local expert suggestions at 2 separate field days, establishing market linkages. Additionally, a number of PA landscape households will be benefitted from homestead vegetable cultivation with IPAC supports beyond this framework.

- ✓ **Increased benefits of eco-tourism opportunities for PA-dependent communities**:

Over the PY4, Chittagong/CHT Cluster will support and contribute to achieve IPAC's eco-tourism value chain work by concentrating on mounting a responsible tourism communications campaign. The cluster will facilitate to establish 3 private entrepreneurs to develop eco-lodges, and tourist shops. Also, the cluster will facilitate training to develop 30 community eco-guides, and link them to the National and Regional tourism sectors.

In the upcoming year, the cluster will ensure necessary efforts to facilitating the Chittagong/CHT CMCs to work in association with the respective DFOs/CFs, in establishing PA entry fee collection system so that the revenue can be shared (50:50 ratio as per Govt. rules), between Forest Dept and the respective CMCs for livelihoods improvement for local community and climate change adaptation. The cluster will distribute tourism related promotional/briefing materials to attract tourists throughout all PAs.

- ✓ **Development of GCC Adaptation Plans**:

This year, Chittagong/CHT Cluster will facilitate IPAC's Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan Development initiatives throughout 61 VCFs by developing one adaptation plan per VCF/Village, based on conducting assessment through regular monthly VCF meetings to be facilitated by Nishorgo Shahayaks. The plans will be shared with GoB Stakeholders and Co-management platforms through meetings and mass gathering sessions, with the purpose to develop awareness among landscape populations, and facilitate adaptation strategies with the provision of direct or leverage financing from local government. These plans will also be integrated into CMC co-management plans.

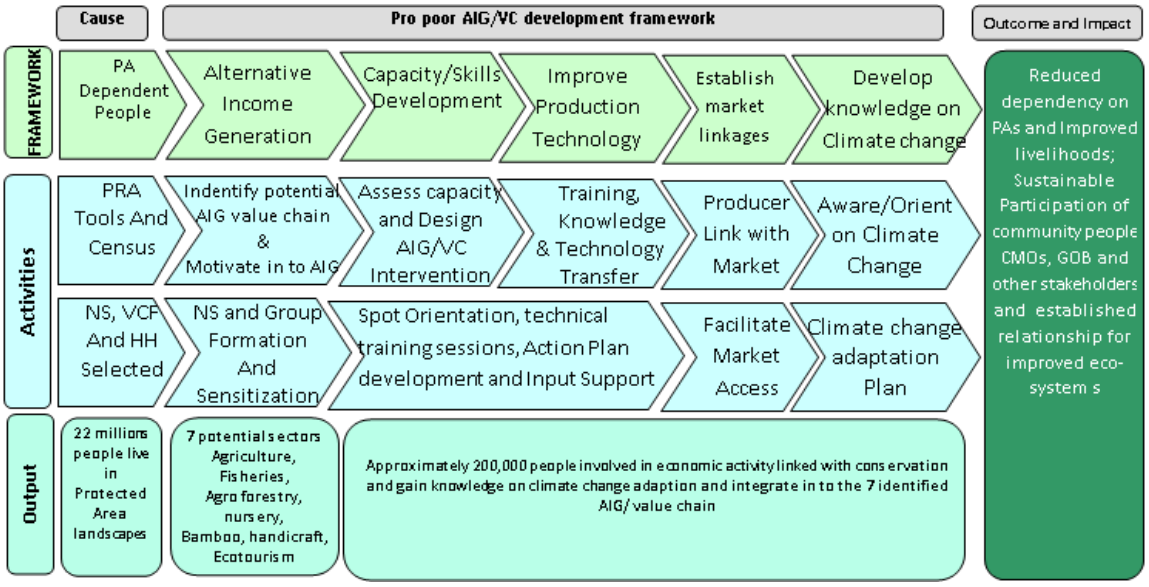
2.3.7 Alternative Income Generation & Value Chains

Over the next year, IPAC will expand its support for conservation-linked alternative income generation (AIG) and value chain (VC) initiatives, growing off of the platform established especially during the last year. These activities are incorporated into site-based work plans, and are summarized below.

- ✓ **AIG activities primarily in aquaculture and homestead gardening will be expanded form the framework established last year**. Working with our Nishorgo Shihayak facilitators, IPAC will target an additional 8,700 households through 290 new VCFs representing all IPAC Protected Areas. Support will target PA-dependent poor, especially women, youth and ethnic minorities. Activities will be carefully monitored to ensure all participants are new and that adequate technical support is provided in order to ensure success.

- ✓ **IPAC's main Value Chain work will concentrate Responsible Tourism.** IPAC will expand and strengthen the number of community eco-guides and eco-lodges, and link them to the broader tourism sector. This will also be integrated to the 'responsible tourism' communications campaign. Additionally, IPAC will facilitate a tourism carrying capacity study for Lawachara National Park, to look for options for spreading-out tourism within that national park as well as to additional parks in the region. Related to this will be on-going fundraising for CONIC so that this visitor's center becomes a tourism attraction.

- ✓ **IPAC will also support development of three minor value chains, including bamboo product production, weaving, and improved cooking stoves**. In each instance, IPAC will support links between producers and buyers, ensuring quality control as well as sustainable management of raw materials.



2.3.8 Landscape Development Fund & Leveraging

A key tool for IPAC's co-management sustainability plan, LDF grants and leveraging of similar financial support to finance conservation-linked development through co-management organizations will continue and expand. While these activities are captured in site-specific work plans, a summary of opportunities includes the following:

- ✓ Over the year, **LDF will wrap-up the first round of grants, and then develop and implement two additional rounds of LDF grants** to co-management beneficiaries from various wetland and forest Protected Areas in all Clusters. Grants selection as well as monitoring and evaluation will be done in close coordination with a steering committee comprising of representatives from GoB (FD, DoF and DoE), IPAC and USAID. IPAC intends to initiate all LDF grants by the end of the year, and to wrap-up all grants early next year.

- ✓ **IPAC will continue to leverage additional financial support** to broaden and deepen co-management and especially to help sustain the co-management platform. This includes on-going work with GIZ in Chunati. Most important, it includes stepping-up efforts with Arannayk Foundation to expand their support from three to many more CMCs. Ultimately, IPAC envisions working with Arannayk Foundation to ensure long-term financial support necessary to sustain Nishorgo Network's most effective co-management organizations.

2.4 Project Management

IPAC will continue to provide strong management and administrative support to ensure effective and efficient functioning of the project. The sections below describe plans for Administration and Finance as well as Monitoring and Evaluation.

2.4.1 Administration & Finance

The IPAC Administration & Finance Team will provide continued support to ensure smooth and effective implementation of IPAC in a manner that is compliant with USAID regulations and Bangladesh laws, as well as quality control and quality assurance. The team is expected to work and provide support in the following key areas over the coming year:

- ✓ **Regular Technical Coordination Meetings.** IPAC will continue to host regular monthly technical coordination meetings that bring together Cluster Directors with senior Technical Specialists in Dhaka to discuss project progress and build technical capacity in new project directions. This year, Technical Coordination Meetings will focus on ensuring sustainability as well as preparation of co-management sustainability plans and climate change adaptation plans.

- ✓ **DPP Revision.** The unavailability of the RPA money has necessitated a significant amendment to the DPPs of all three GOB departments. The FD, DOE and DOF are advised by their respective ministries to recast the DPPs by reallocating the infrastructure and habitat restoration works for funding from the GOB's internal resources. IPAC administration will need to extensively involve and work with the three departments in DPP amendment process.

- ✓ **IPAC Subcontracts Management.** IRG is in the process of carefully reviewing the future roles and involvement of all IPAC subcontractors. This is very essential for reallocating resources from those having excess to those who are in deficit. Given the impetus on AIG and value chain activities, the subcontract modifications are becoming increasingly important. As applicable, IRG will be seeking approval of these changes in order to proceed with a restructuring of the budgetary support to meet the goals and objectives of the IPAC project contract. Further details will be provided directly to USAID when becomes due. The Year 3 audit of the subcontractors will be completed within the second half of PY 4.

- ✓ **Staffing.** A number of employment contracts will expire in the next year. IRG will review those on a case by case basis and extensions be given after proper assessment of individual performances and in keeping with the budgetary provisions. The key position of Governance Specialist that has fallen vacant by resignation will be filled in early PY 4 including the third accounts officer.

- ✓ **Quality Control.** The periodic administrative and financial reports will be submitted to USAID in a timely manner. This includes quarterly accruals, quarterly financial progress, annual tax, monthly VAT reports. Annual inventory of non-expendable properties would also be submitted.

2.4.2 Monitoring & Evaluation

IPAC's Performance Monitoring Team will continue to monitor and report on IPAC's impacts especially as related to the Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP) on a regular basis. Scheduling will take into account USAID reporting at the close of the USG fiscal year, and IPAC will ensure timely delivery of accurate data and support documentation. In addition to routine monitoring, over the next year the team will also undertake the following actions to strengthen overall performance monitoring:

- ✓ **Socio-economic Baseline & Impact Surveys**. A sample household survey covering IPAC direct beneficiary households (AIGA/Value Chain and LDF beneficiaries), key participants in conservation (CPGs) and comparable non-participants will be finalized and conducted to evaluate economic changes for PMP indicators and wider impacts of co-management.

- ✓ **Specialist Baseline and Impact Surveys Covering Indirect Benefits** of IPAC will be designed and undertaken covering those engaged in the tourist service sector, users of improved cooking stoves, and NSP and MACH beneficiaries.

- ✓ **Qualitative & Semi-Quantitative Investigations of Wider Impacts of Co-Management** on social capital, empowerment and participation based on focus group discussions.

- ✓ **Assessment of the CMOs Based on Score Card**. Yearly assessments of forest CMCs and wetland RMOs will be continued and reviewed for comparison with the baseline (2011).

- ✓ **Indicator Bird Monitoring for Program Year Review**. Ten forest PA sites will be surveyed as an impact survey during March-August 2012 with Dr. Monirul H. Khan leading this survey. Trained volunteer bird watchers and CMO representatives will continue bird monitoring in selected PA sites. Repeat surveys of water birds will also be conducted by volunteers in January-February in key wetlands already counted in earlier years.

- ✓ **Landscape Identification & Endorsements from the CMOs**. During the initial quarters, PA landscape area definition will be finalized and endorsed by the CMO office bearers.

- ✓ **Landscape Mapping for Forest & Wetland Protected Areas.** All the IPAC PA sites will be mapped at landscape level; this process is underway and in PY4 it will be completed.

- ✓ **Fish Catch Monitoring & Reporting on Biodiversity Assessment in Selected Wetlands.** Fish catch and biodiversity monitoring in 14 wetland spots in four wetland systems of Sylhet (Hail Haor), Central (Turag-Bangshi river basin and Kangsha-Malijhee river basin) and Khulna (fish landing points of Sundarbans) clusters will continue. During PY4, the WorldFish Center will compile and report on these data and make comparisons with the end of MACH-project baseline.

Additionally, regular PMP reporting will continue per quarter. The PMP team will report monthly from each PA sites and this will be compiled quarterly for USAID reporting. In this process, an MS Access based database will be functional starting from the first quarter of the year.

3 IPAC Performance Monitoring Targets

In the past year review and refinement of performance indicators, including operational definitions and measurement methods, was undertaken and a number of modifications were agreed with USAID. These have been incorporated in the plan targets and associated monitoring and evaluation for project year four. During the coming year major progress is expected to bring the total expected area (both biologically significant and landscape) for the project under functioning co-management. Ground work for this has already been laid, but the areas will be counted once CMCs are functioning and have management plans. Another indicator for which a major increase is expected is in the numbers of people aware of the protected areas network, with the project planning important mass media initiatives. Although targets for indictors 3 and 4 are in line with the earlier targets, whether these management areas will qualify as impacts depends on biophysical monitoring which will continue in this year but may not show significant changes until the final project year. A major effort will be made in this period to improve estimates of the numbers of people benefited and magnitude of economic benefits generated from USG assistance both for direct beneficiaries from support for alternative and additional livelihoods and for a range of indirect beneficiaries. The required sample surveys and studies will also aim to investigate more qualitative impacts on the disadvantaged and social changes. Similarly in this period changes in the performance of co-management by protected area will be assessed.

Table 8: Performance Targets for Program Year 4

Sl.	Indicators	Unit	Program Target (June 2008 - May 2013)	Cumulative Achievement: (Through PY3; May 2011	PY 4 Work Plan Target (June 2011 – May 2012
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Number of hectares under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance.	ha	716,500	224,626	716,500
2	Number of hectares in areas of biological significance under improved management as a result of USG assistance.	ha	600,000	170,135	600,000
3	Number of hectares of natural resources showing improved biophysical conditions as a result of USG assistance.	ha	3a. Landscape only-2000; 3b. Core+ landscape - 302,000	3a. Landscape only-804.48 3b. Core+ landscape -1097.86	3a. Landscape only 1500 3b Core+ landscape 201,500
4	Number of hectares in areas of biological significance showing improved biophysical conditions as a result of USG assistance.	ha	300,000	294	200,000

Sl.	Indicators	Unit	Program Target (June 2008 - May 2013)	Cumulative Achievement: (Through PY3; May 2011	PY 4 Work Plan Target (June 2011 – May 2012
1	2	3	4	5	6
5	Number of policies, laws, agreements or regulations promoting sustainable natural resource management and conservation that are implemented as a result of USG assistance.	Nos.	20	15	15
6	Number of people with increased economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation as a result of USG assistance.	Pers.	500,000	65,041 (F-31,574)	350,000
7	Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation.	Pers.	20,000	14,561 (F-4,995)	18,000
8	Number of people with increased adaptive capacity to cope with impacts of climate variability and change as a result of USG assistance.	Pers.	8a. 200,000 8b. 70,000	8a. aware: 225,050; 8b. Adapt: 13,666	8a. 150,000 8b. 40,000
9	Greenhouse gas emissions, measured in metric tons CO2 equivalent, reduced or sequestered as a result of USG assistance in natural resources management, agriculture and/or biodiversity sector. (metric Ton CO_2e).	ton	300,000	78,276 t	200,000
10	Number of people in target areas with access to improved drinking water supply as a result of USG assistance.	Pers.	30,000	91,600 (F-44,466)	25,000
11	Number of people receiving USG supported training in environmental law, enforcement, public participation, and cleaner production policies, strategies, skills and techniques.	Pers.	750	594; (F-103)	600

Sl.	Indicators	Unit	Program Target (June 2008 - May 2013)	Cumulative Achievement: (Through PY3; May 2011	PY 4 Work Plan Target (June 2011 – May 2012
1	2	3	4	5	6
12	Number of people receiving USG supported training in global climate change including framework convention on climate change, greenhouse gas inventories, mitigation, and adaptation analysis.	Pers.	100	441; (F-51)	75
13	Number of individuals benefiting from use of improved stove and bio-gas plants.	Pers.	44,800	9,578 (F-4,650)	36,400
14	Market and non-market revenue generated from AIG, ecotourism and other economic activities in targeted sites.	USD	$2,000,000	$908,401	$1,600,000
15	Increase in density of indicator bird species in wetland and forested landscape.	%	Forest >10% wetland >30%	-	- (to be assessed in final year)
16	Amount of leveraged financing for conservation.	USD	$21.50 million	$ 17.37 million	$17.20
17	Number of individuals that are aware of a national Protected Areas network.	Pers.	2,500,000	1,163,792; (F- 349,306)	2,000,000
18	More active and decisive support of PA co-management by FD, DoE, DoF and Local Government.	%	100%	-	To be deleted
19	Number of communities with Co-management agreements.	Nos.	400	748	400
20	Number of training curriculums developed and trained modules designed and taught.	Nos.	20	14	15
21	Number of recorded visitors to targeted PAs.	Pers.	1,000,000	427,059	750,000
22	Number of GoB protected areas with improved performance	Nos.	45	-	30

Annex 1: Technical Component Work Plan Matrices

SI	Outcome	Activity	Time Frame	Resources
Component 1: Development of IPAC Strategy				
1	**Policy support for integrated PA co-management**	Operationalize Nishorgo Network Strategy & Action Plan	All Year	COP, DCOP, Policy Specialists; meetings & consultations
2		Complete revisions to Forest, Wildlife Acts; PA Rules	1 & 2 Quarter	Forest Policy Specialist tracking & meetings
3		Support Wetlands Leasing Reform	1, 2 & 3 Quarter	Wetland Policy Specialist meetings & technical support
4		Co-Management Impact Assessment	3 & 4 Quarter	COP, DCOP, STTA report & presentation
5		Implement Social Forestry Plantations	All Year	Forest Policy Specialist technical support to sites
6		Improve Entrance Fee Revenue Sharing	1 & 2 Quarter	DCOP & Forest Policy Specialist; meetings; assessment; consultations
7		Finalize PA Co-Management Plans (with Sustainability Plans)	1 & 2 Quarter	Forest Policy Specialist; technical support; publications; presentations
8		Forest Carbon Finance Support	All Year	DCOP & COP; complete reports; meetings; presentations; consultations
9		Nishorgo Network National Forums	2, 3 & 4 Quarter	Governance Specialist w/ Communications Team; national workshop & regional events

SI	Outcome	Activity	Time Frame	Resources
Component 1: Development of IPAC Strategy				
1	**Nishorgo Network Communications & Outreach**	Development & Implementation of 3 National Campaigns	All Year	Communications Team with Asiatic; media materials
2		Youth Engagement (debates; Scout involvement; Nishorgo Clubs)	All Year	Communications Team with Cluster Teams; events
3		Radio Programs & Local Theater	1, 2 & 3 Quarter	Communications Team with Asiatic; radio spots; events
4		Key message, 'I am nature and Nature is mine' saturation	All Year	Communications Team with Asiatic; media spots; events
5		Nishorgo Network film documentary launching	1 or 2 Quarter	Communications Team with Asiatic; event
6		Nishorgo Network promotional material distribution	1, 2 & 3 Quarter	Communications Team with Asiatic; posters, flipcharts, brochures
7		Nishorgo Network Television Commercial	3 Quarter	Communications Team with Asiatic; television spot
8		Nishorgo Network national forums	2, 3 & 4 Quarter	Governance Specialist w/ Communications Team w/ Governance Specialist; national workshop & regional events

SI	Outcome	Activity	Time Frame	Resources
Component 1: Development of IPAC Strategy				
1	**IPAC Communications & Outreach**	Project & Technical Reports Production & Distribution	All Year	Communications Team; Reports
2		Celebration of national & International Days & Participation in Fairs and Expos	All Year	Communications Team with Asiatic; Events
3		Fact Sheet Development & Distribution	1, 2 & 3 Quarter	Communications Team; fact sheets
4		Journalist Engagement	All Year	Communications Team; Press Releases; Media Gatherings; Site Visits
5		VIP Site Visits	All Year	COP, DCOP, Communications Team, Site Teams; Site Visits
6		GoB Communications Support	1, 2 & 3 Quarter	Communications Team with Asiatic; Events
7		IPAC Workshop & Events Support	3 Quarter	Communications Team with Asiatic; Workshops & Meetings
8		Website Development & Management	2, 3 & 4 Quarter	Communications Team with Asiatic; Website
9		Cluster Team Communications Support	2 & 4 Quarter	Communications Team; workshops

SI	Outcome	Activity	Time Frame	Resources
Component 2: Building Institutional Capacity				
1	**CMO & Local Government Training & Capacity Building**	TOT for CMO Capacity Building, management, conservation & development, climate change adaptation	1 Quarter	CBT Team w/ Cluster Directors, SFs & SCs; trainings; training materials
2		CMO Capacity Building in management; conservation & development; climate change adaptation	All Year	CBT Team supporting site teams; technical materials
3		Local Government Consultations in conservation & development, climate change adaptation	2 & 4 Quarter	CBT Team supporting site teams; technical materials
4	**Community Organization & VCF Training**	TOT for VCF Capacity Building; management, alternative income generation, climate change adaptation	1 Quarter	CBT Team w/ FOs and NS; trainings; training materials
5		VCF Capacity Building in management, alternative income generation, climate change	All Year	CBT Team supporting site teams; technical materials
6		Preparation of Climate Change Adaptation Plans	2 & 3 Quarter	CBT Team supporting site teams; technical materials
7	**Community Patrol Group-Joint Patrol Training**	CPG Refresher Training	2 & 3 Quarter	CBT Team supporting site teams; training; technical materials

SI	Outcome	Activity	Time Frame	Resources
Component 2: Building Institutional Capacity				
1	**National Training Programs**	Certificate Course in Conservation Biology & Applied PA Co-Management (2)	2 & 3 Quarter	JU-IUB sub-contract; residential training
2		Small Grants Program for Research on Co-Management	1 & 3 Quarter	EWC sub-contract; grants; workshop
3		Open Water Fisheries Management	2 Quarter	WFC technical assistance; training materials & training session
		Community Based Natural Resources Management Seminar	1 Quarter	EWC sub-contract; CBT Team support; seminar
4	**Regional & International Training Programs**	Certificate Course in PA Management in Montana, USA (1 in 2011; 1 in 2012)	1 Quarter	CBT Team; Training; International Travel
5		Regional Study Tours to Thailand for 26 participants over 2 trips	2 & 4 Quarter	CBT Team; RECOFTC; Training; International Travel
6		Diploma/Certificate Course in Co-Management in India for 4 participants	2 & 3 Quarter	CBT Team; WII; Training; International Travel
7		Cross Site Visit to Nepal for 13 participants	3 Quarter	CBT Team; CIRDAP; Training; International Travel
8		Cross Site Visit to India for 16 participants	4 Quarter	CBT Team; CBA; Training; International Travel

SI	Outcome	Activity	Time Frame	Resources
Component 3: Site Specific Implementation (General support; see Site-Specific Matrix for greater detail)				
1	**AIG/VC Support**	AIG Round Two Ramp-Up	1 Quarter	AIG/VC technical support; site-level coordination
2		AIG Round Two Technical Support; Monitoring & Evaluation	2, 3, 4 Quarter	AIG/VC technical support; site-level coordination; link to LDF
3		Value Chain Work	All Year	AIG/VC technical support; site-level coordination; link to LDF
		Lawachara Carrying Capacity Study	3 Quarter	STTA; report; workshop
		CONIC Fundraising & Development	All Year	COP, DCOP, PO; meetings & presentations
4	**LDF Grants & Leveraging**	LDF Round 1 Technical Support	1, 2, 3 Quarter	Grants Manager w/ Cluster Teams; LDF grants
5		LDF Round 2 & 3 Launch & Technical Support	2, 3 & 4 Quarter	Grants Manager w/ Cluster Teams; LDF grants
6		Arannayk Foundation Leveraging & Coordination	All Year	Grants Manager w/Cluster Teams; meetings; field visits
7		Donor, Donor Project & Private Sector Leveraging & Coordination	All Year	COP, DCOP & Grants Manager; meetings; field visits

SI	Outcome	Activity	Time Frame	Resources
Project Management				
1	**Administration & Finance**	Regular Technical Coordination Meetings	All Year	COP, DCOP, Technical Specialists; Cluster Directors; Monthly Meetings
2		DPP budget Revisions	1 & 3 Quarter	A&F Director; technical assistance
3		IPAC Sub-Contracts Management	All Year	A&F Director; audits; meetings
4		Quality Control	All Year	COP, DCOP, Technical Specialists; Field Visits; Cluster Meetings
5	**Monitoring & Evaluation**	IPAC Performance Monitoring	All Year	PMP Specialist & Team; Technical Assistance
6		Socio-Economic Baseline & Impact Survey	2 & 4 Quarter	PM Team w/ STTA. Field visits
7		Co-Management Impact Assessment	1 & 3 Quarter	PM Team w/ STTA. Field visits; Report; Presentation
8		CMO Scorecard Assessments	1 & 4 Quarter	PM Team w/ STTA. Field visits; Report
9		Indicator Bird Monitoring Assessment	4 Quarter	STTA; Field visits; Report; Presentation
10		Fish Catch Monitoring	2 & 3 Quarter	PM Team w/ STTA. Field visits; Report
11		Landscape Mapping for Forest & Wetland PAS	1 & 2 Quarter	PM Team w/ STTA. Field visits; Maps

Annex 2: Site-Based Work Plan Matrices

Please refer to separate Annex document.

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