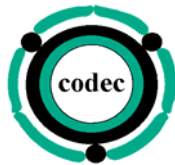


**Study on the Capacity of Coordination Committee in
Bangladesh As Community Based Organization under Socio-
Cultural Development Programme**

**Assigned Location: Chittagong, Laxmipur, Noakhali, Borguna and
Patuakhali Districts
Study Duration: July to September 2011**

Reporting Time: 26-09-11

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Contents:	Page
Acronym	02
1. Introduction	03
1.1 Background	03
1.2 Key Question	04
1.3 Methodology	04
1.4 Geographical Location	05-06
1.5 Population and Sample	07
1.6 Data Collection	07
1.7 Limitation of the Study	07
2.1 What is Coordination Committee?	07
2.2 Salient Features of CC	08
2.3 Programme/ Activity of CC	9-10
3.1 Overall Responsibilities of CC	10
3.2 Formation Process, goal and objectives of CC.	10-11
4. Registration Status of CC	.12-13
5. Leadership and Networking of CC	13-
5.1 Training Received by CC Leaders	13
5.2 Implementation of IGA	14
5.3 CC's Own Office/ Landed Property Status	15
5.4 CCs' Fund Availability	15-16
6. CC's Resolution Writing Skill and Documentation Skill	17
7. CC's Prospective Activity	17
8. Influencing Factors to the context of Socio-cultural environment.	17
8.1 Contributing Factors	17
8.2 Livelihood Factors	17
8.3 Location Factors.	18
8.4 Environmental/ Climate Change Factors	17
9. Facilitation and Recommendation for further Improvement.	18
9.1 "A" Grade Coordination Committee	19
9.2 "B" Grade Coordination Committee	20
9.3 C Grade Coordination Committee.	21
Conclusion	21

Acronyms

BDT:	Bangladesh Taka
BRAC:	Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee/ Building Resource Across Communities
CC:	Coordination Committee
CDD:	Community Driven Development
CBO:	Community Based Organization
DANIDA:	Danish International Development Agency
DRR:	Disaster Risk Reduction
FDR:	Fixed Deposit Receipt
GoB:	Government of Bangladesh
IGA:	Income Generating Activities
LSP:	Local Service Provider
MDG:	Millennium Development Goal
NBD:	Nation Building Department
PF:	Parents' Forum
PTA:	Parents Teachers' Association
RFLDC:	Regional Fisheries & Livestock Development Component
SMC:	School Management Committee
TBA:	Training for Birth Attendance
UP:	Union Parishad (local Government)
VAW:	Violence Against Woman
VGD:	Vulnerable Group Development
VGF:	Vulnerable Group Feeding
WC:	Ward Committee

Study on the Capacity of Coordination Committee as Community Based Organization

1.Introduction:

CODEC has been working with the perception of CDD (Community Driven Development) in order to strengthen the capacity of 100 Coordination Committees in the coastal Bangladesh under the programme, SCDP since 2004. Now it is appropriate time to assess the capacity and their advancement in terms of their programme implementation capacity for sustainable socio-cultural development in the respective region of Coordination Committees. This study aims at tracing out the extended picture of capacity and prospects of Coordination Committee in general. CODEC has been endeavouring to prepare a favourable atmosphere for Coordination Committee that helps them to be established as effective and potential Community Based Organization.

1.1 Background:

CODEC initiated its operation in the year 1985 as a coastal development NGO based in Chittagong for the promotion of development mainly for the coastal fisher folk. Since then CODEC expanded its working area of operation by including Laxmipur, Patuakhali, Barguna and Noakhali Districts as National NGO specialized as development organization for coastal and riverine communities. Considering the above CODEC has been implementing the Programme as follows:

- People's Organization and Good Governance
- Social Service and Linkage Building
- Education and Access to Information
- Training
- National Advocacy

People, rather than resources, are at the center of CODEC development goal and objectives. Institutions and institutional processes being central to the vision and mission, it is sensitized in the people centered development that puts people as the major propeller and major recipients of development.

CODEC perspective challenges the mainstream concept of development as one of the maximizing socio-cultural entity and economic growth, with the fervent hope that its benefits would trickle down to the people and the focal points would be the underprivileged men, women, children and adolescents of coastal and riverine communities.

Institution building through social mobilization and CODEC facilitation created a sense of solidarity among the disadvantaged people of coastal area. As the process of social

mobilization has been evolving, these disadvantaged communities began to assert the rights on the coastal and marine resources to which they are entitled. This also enables them to have access to additional marine resources on which they are surviving. This countervailing power is a part of democratic and human development process, which is ensuring greater equality gradually. These deprived community people have been becoming progressively more aware and self-reliant. Institution Building through intensive participation of community people has also been evidently exposed as a platform of collective voice and action.

Recently CODEC Management has graded 98 CCs and to grade them properly, a list of indicators were set up. Three types of CC was found out they were- “A” that implies as good “B” as moderate and “C” as weak.

1.1 Key Question:

The key question of the study is-

How far it is possible to achieve social advancement and poverty reduction through the activity of the coordination committee as CBO?

Subsequently other questions relates the study as mentioned bellow

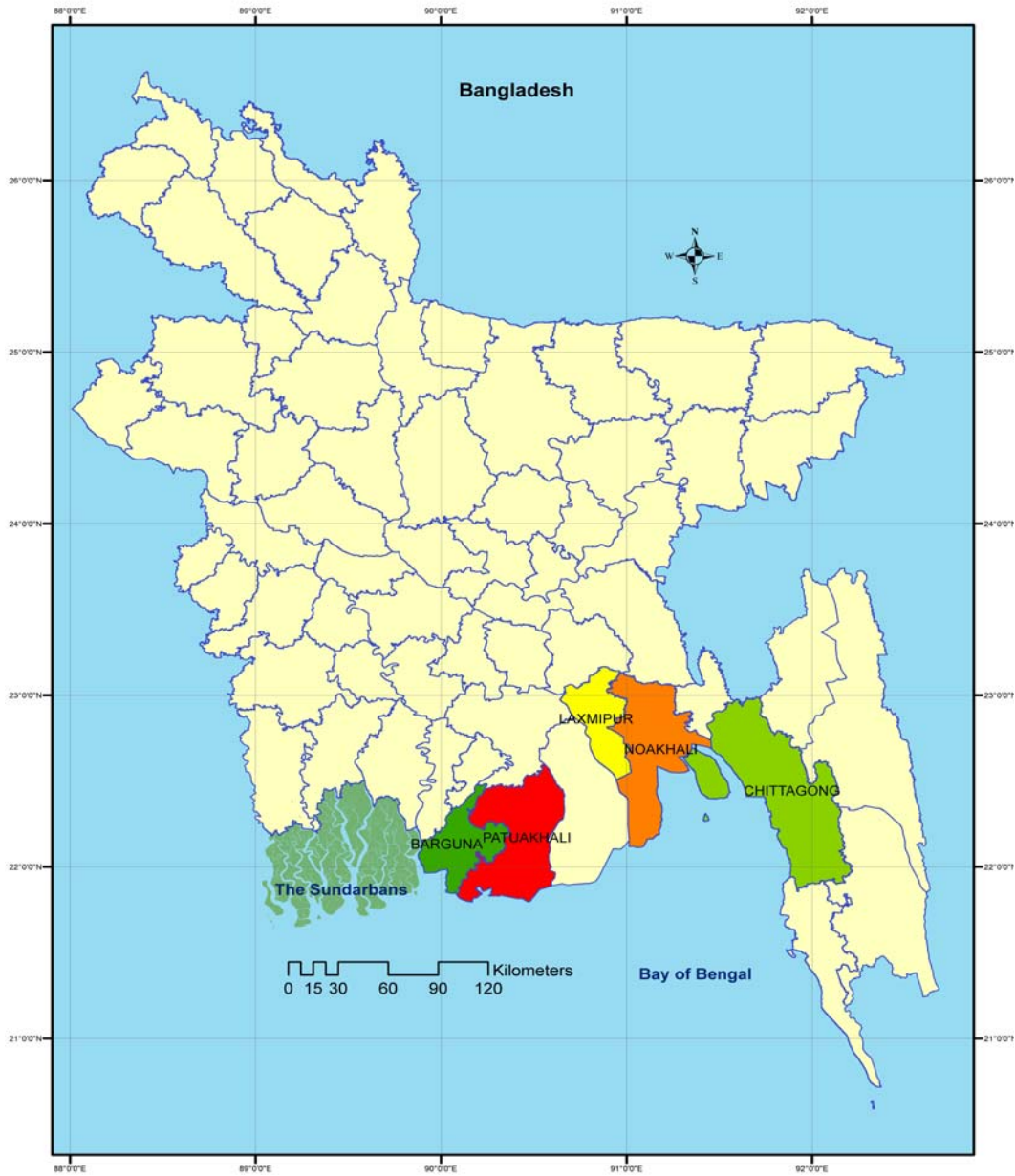
1. What are the strengths of CCs that could make them as social catalyst?
2. What are their activities that increase CCs’ social acceptance?
3. What initiatives they can take for their self-reliance and poverty reduction of the community people?

1.2 Methodology:

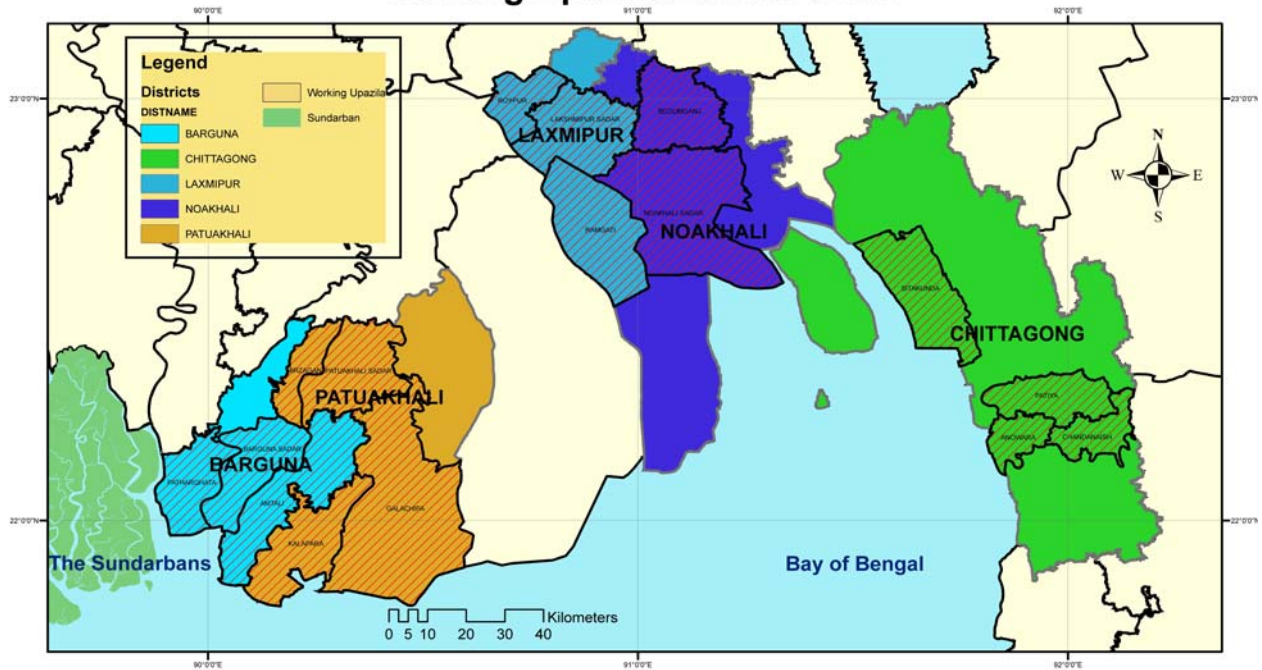
For the study on aforesaid topics FGD and Community Group Interviewing methods were followed where a total of 64 CCs and 640 CC leaders actively participated. It took three months (from July 2011 to September 2011) to accomplish the FGDs and Community Group Interviewing. From CODEC management side, Mr. Masud Al Hasnat, Sr. Programme Officer-Monitoring and Research Cell have been assigned to accomplish the study. District and Upazila level Personnel of SCDP in the respective Districts were informed about the study and they took cooperative measures in this respect.

1.3 Geographical Location of the Study:

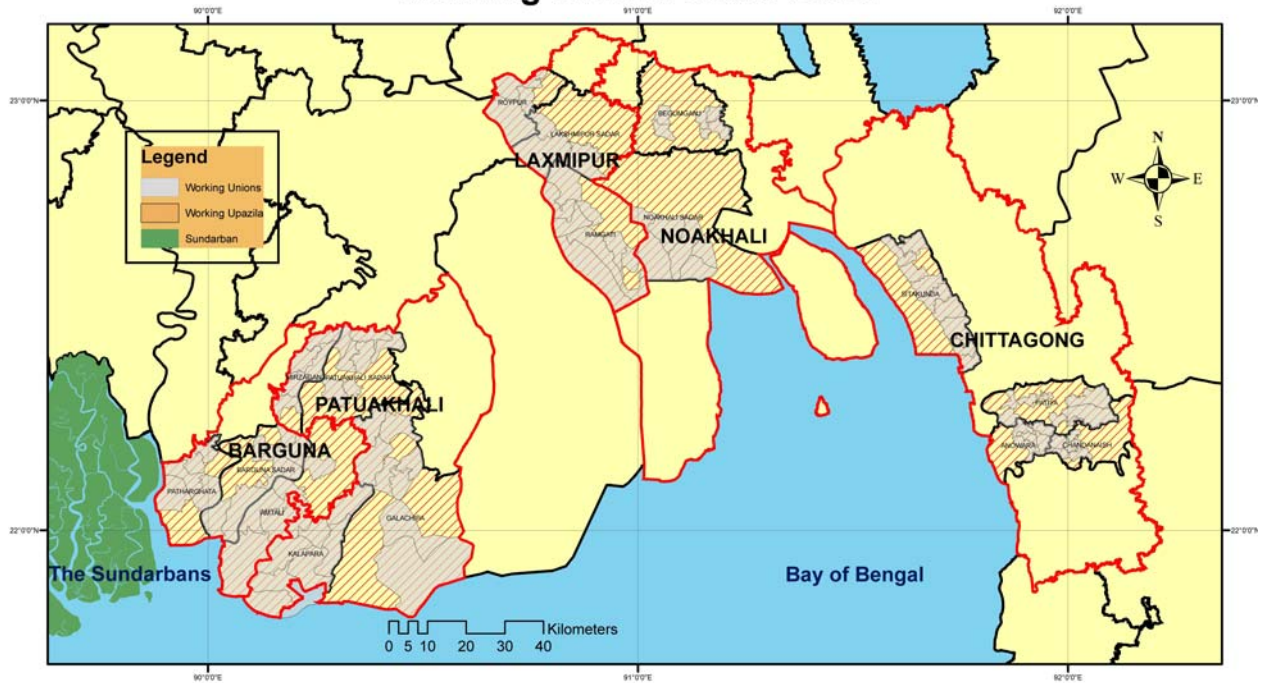
The study was assigned in the coastal and riverine five districts namely Chittagong, Noakhali, Laxmipur, Borguna and Potuakhali in the southern region of Bangladesh. A total of 64 Union was visited to accomplish the study wherein 15 CCs in Chittagong, 6 CCs in Noakhali, 10 CCs in Laxmipur, 15 CCs in Borguna Districts and 18 CCs in Patuakhali Districts have been selected for FGDs and Group Interviewing.



Working Upazillas under SCDP



Working Unions under SCDP



1.4 Population and Sample:

The characteristics of the target population of the study are coastal and riverine of the southern part in Bangladesh. Community leaders from 64 CCs were permanent inhabitants of the region and have been living for several generations. A total of 640 community leaders who are CC Executive Committee Members and representatives from the respective Ward Committees participated in the FGDs and Community Group Interviewing.

Eventually, the sampling of the study followed was Purposive Sampling. In this regard, CODEC management advised the study assignee to contact with CODEC personnel in Borguna and Potuakhali districts to cooperate preparing a plan to visit the respective CCs.

1.5 Data Collection:

Primary Data was collected through visiting 64 numbers of CC directly through conducting FGDs and Group Interviewing. Both Qualitative and Quantitative Data were collected by using a questionnaire that contains Open Question, Probing Question, Hypothetical Question and Closed Question.

Secondary Data was collected from CODEC-SCDP Annual Report, Quarterly Report, Monthly Report, Impact Studies, and other published study documents.

1.6 Limitations of the Study:

The Community Leaders responded hurriedly as they are now busy with fishing, cultivating, and harvesting. Besides, due to monsoon excessive rainfall hindered some FGD schedule.

2.1 What is Coordination Committee?

When a community of a union organized themselves following a specific constitution in order to articulate entitlements and services that recognized by the state, and to achieve social justice, then a coordination committee is formed. In this CC common people who are underprivileged and various professionals, both men and women can involve with this organization. It is an apex organization represented by WC, PF, and Jot. It is worth noticing that involved people are non-political, pro-active and volunteer in nature.

Goal and Objectives of CC:

Goal:

Coordination Committee aims at the sustainable development of the community in terms of articulation of rights and entitlements, establishment of the social justice and ensuring social progress through eradicating poverty of the respective community.

Objectives:

- a. Articulation of rights and entitlements as recognized by the government through raising collective voice.
- b. Elimination of social injustice, hindrance by increasing awareness through social movement.
- c. To take IGA collectively in a cooperative manner to reduce poverty of the community.

2.2 Salient Features of Coordination Committee:

A potential CC follows the perception of CDD (Community Driven Development) where in they take major decision, prepare plan, and implement thereby utilizing local services and resources. Along with the above characteristics, CC has the following common traits:

- a.** CC has its own constitution and in accordance with this constitution an elected committee is performing actively.
- b.** Elected members and leaders had the clear concept of goal and objectives, and activities of CC.
- c.** Various sub-committees such as Executive Committee, Volunteer Committee, Communication Committee, and Project/Activity Implementation Committee are active and they attend Monthly, Quarterly meeting regularly, and decisions are implemented accordingly.
- d.** CC has a general/common Annual Activity Plan
- e.** They have fund and its management is transparent
- f.** They have close relation with local government (UP), LSP, NBD, NGO and articulate their rights, entitlements and services that they deserve
- g.** Local community people have dependence and well acceptance of the CC, and CC steps forward to solve their problems
- h.** CC has the recognition/registration from GoB either from Social Welfare or Cooperative Bureau
- i.** CC leaders regularly visit ward committees and distinguish local problems, social issues and take necessary initiatives to solve them
- j.** CC plays important role for women empowerment and in the committee women have easy access and active participation

2.3 Programme/ Activity of Coordination Committee:

As CCs follow the perception of CDD so about activity/programme, they prepare plan, make decision and implement utilizing local resources through proper participation of community people. Aforesaid process aims at achieving their goal and objectives for the last five years CCs have been implementing the following activities.

A. Articulation of Rights and Entitlements:

1. Awareness Raising on Human Rights, Women's Rights:

To raise awareness among community CCs arrange court yard meeting and discuss on human rights, women and child rights at ward level meeting regularly. They also celebrate various day observances, such as Global Human Rights Day, Global Women's Day.

2. Activity on Mother and Child Health and Nutrition:

To reduce mother and child mortality rate, CCs conduct court yard meeting, prepare list of pregnant mothers, ensure immunization, and check up. Besides, during National Immunization Day, CCs campaign through announcement in the local community

3. Child Rights, Child Protection and Education:

To ensure enrolment of children at primary education and to reduce drop out from primary education, View Sharing Meeting with SMC, PTA and PF, merit

based reward for students, art competitions, wall magazine competition, education and cultural fare, and reward distribution during Annual Sports Competition to the students enhance awareness and encourage community in education.

4. **Women's Rights protection:**

To ensure women rights, prevent early marriage at ward level through declaration of Early Marriage Free village/ward after raising awareness on the issue. Besides ensuring Marriage Register, prevention of open dowry, domestic violence and violence against women through View Sharing Meeting, Mass Gathering, Mass Signing, Rally at union level are the activities that CCs have been implementing.

5. **Availing Rights and Entitlements from Local Government(UP):**

In order to articulate and access to rights and entitlements of VGD, VGF, Aged Pension, Widow Pension, Disabled Allowance, CCs have been raising their voice through View Sharing Meeting with Union Parishad on Pre-budget Discussion, Annual Development Plan of UP. In addition to these, CCs have been proposing and ensuring inclusion of ward level poor community people in UP's 100 Days Activities, 40 Days Activities, Food for Work and Money for Work Programme.

6. **Inclusion of CC leaders in UP Standing Committee:**

To ensure governance CC leaders have been trying to include themselves in the 14th UP standing committee where they have been trying to assist local government and its standing committees to be more active

7. **Participation in Social Arbitration/ Salish/ Village Court:**

In order to establish social justice CC leaders have been involving themselves in social arbitration and assisting local government (UP) in village court.

B. Social Mobilization for Elimination of Social Injustice:

1. **Integrated Programme on Human Rights, Women's Rights:**

Awareness raising on human rights specially on women and child rights, marriage registration, prevention of open dowry system, early marriage and polygamy through View Sharing Meeting, Mass Gathering, Mass Signing and prepare a field to prevent all kinds of social injustice- a social mobilization both at ward and union level have been prepared by CCs.

2. **Declaration of Early Marriage, Open Dowry Free Village, Ward, and Union:**

To topple down early marriage, polygamy, open dowry CCs have been working to declare early marriage and dowry free village, ward and union.

3. **Prepare favorable Field for Qualitative Primary Education:**

CCs have been working for preparing an effective education movement atmosphere through communicating with PTA, SMC and PF. Moreover CCs have been carrying out View Sharing with PTA, SMC and PF, encouraging students by rewarding in art competition, annual sports and wall magazine.

4. **Campaign for Immunization and Check up of Mother and Child:**

Immunization and check-up of pregnant women and child care are also important issues on which CCs have been conducting ward meeting to ensure hundred percent immunizations of children in National Immunization Day. For this purpose achievement, CCs have been propagating through announcement in the community.

5. Voluntary Activity on Climate Change and DRR Issues:

To adapt and to mitigate climate change and DRR issues CCs have been working at community level voluntarily. During SIDR and AYLA they have been selected to prepare the list of affected people and relief distribution by the local government and several NGOs. Besides, to renovate road, embankment CCs leaders have been participating voluntarily and pro-actively.

3.1 Overall Responsibilities of CCs in terms of Sustainable Socio-Cultural Development

Responsible and dutiful community preparation and its background are very ancient in this subtropical region. From the reign of Aryan People, this subcontinent people learnt to build a strong local government system through “Panchyaet” system that still exists in many places. Now it is necessary to rennovate this system through establishing effective and potential CBO like CCs in a social science manner. As the CCs are nonpolitical, voluntarily community based organization; it could be flourished gradually for the overall development of the community.

Elimination of Social Injustice and articulation of rights and entitlements, and above all, both economic and socio-cultural development are the prime objectives that they can achieve through working proactively and establishing governance.

In order to reduce poverty CCs have been trying to launch IGA on collective basis so that it can ensure collective economic solvency utilizing local resources.

3.2 Formation Process, Goal and Objectives of CC:

Following a constitution all CCs have been formed, and CC leaders can explain well about formation process, and goal and objectives of the Committee in general.

During the last 25 years CODEC used two different approaches to form Coordination Committee and previously the credit group based approach was used where all the members of each credit group formed the general committee of Village Organization. During that period there were maximum 35 members in a VO and males and females had separate VOs. Two members from each VO came to form the general committee of CC. All the VOs under one credit branch formed the CC during that time. Elections were held to form different committees with in VO and CC.

3.2.a. Credit Branch based Village Organization (VO) and Coordination Committee (CC) Formation

There were two committees in a VO namely:

1. General Committee (Each VO usually formed with maximum 35 members each. Males and females had separate VOs.)
2. Executive Committee of 7 members (President, Secretary, Cashier and 4 members)

CCs also had two committees and they were:

1. General Committee (Two members of each VO formed the committee and all the VOs under a credit branch were included)

2. Executive Committee of 9 members (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Cashier and 5 members)

This approach of CC formation is out of work since 2007 and adopted a newer approach, which is Union, based and completely separated from credit program. For ensuring and emphasizing socio-cultural development CODEC has developed separate constitutions for its grass-root level organizations and they are presented in the following paragraphs

3.2.b. Ward Committee (WC) Formation

In WC's constitution it is clearly written that disadvantaged members of all the villages within the ward boundary must form WC. Total of 25 members in which 10 male and 15 females must be included. All the members of WC must be aged between 20 to 55 years. Generally elected Women Ward Member should be included in the Ward Committee. The objective of WC is to work for people living with the ward boundary so that they can get their rights and entitlements. Apart from this general committee of 25 members there is executive committee of 7 members. (President, Secretary, Cashier and 4 members)

3.2.c. Coordination Committee (CC) Formation

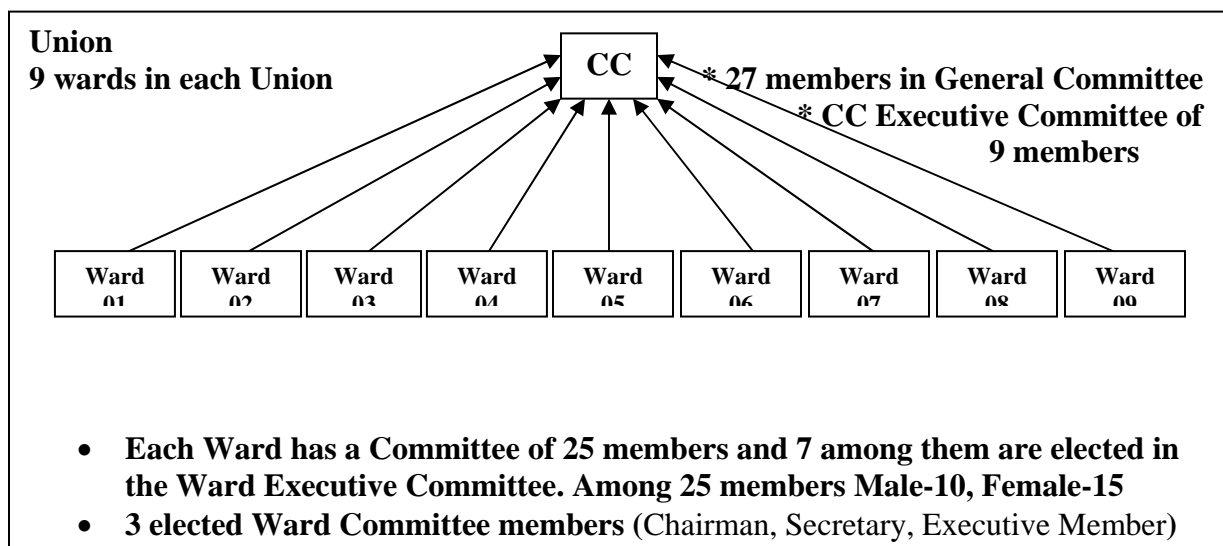
A CC must be created by 3 members from each nine wards under a Union. With three members from each ward a 27 members' general committee of CC is created. Then through election nine members form the executive committee of CC where President, Vice-President, Secretary, Cashier and 5 executive members comprise.

The objectives of CC are to work with the disadvantaged communities of coastal areas for availing their rights and entitlements and to ensure services and facilities both from GO & NGOs.

3.2.d. Duration of Committee:

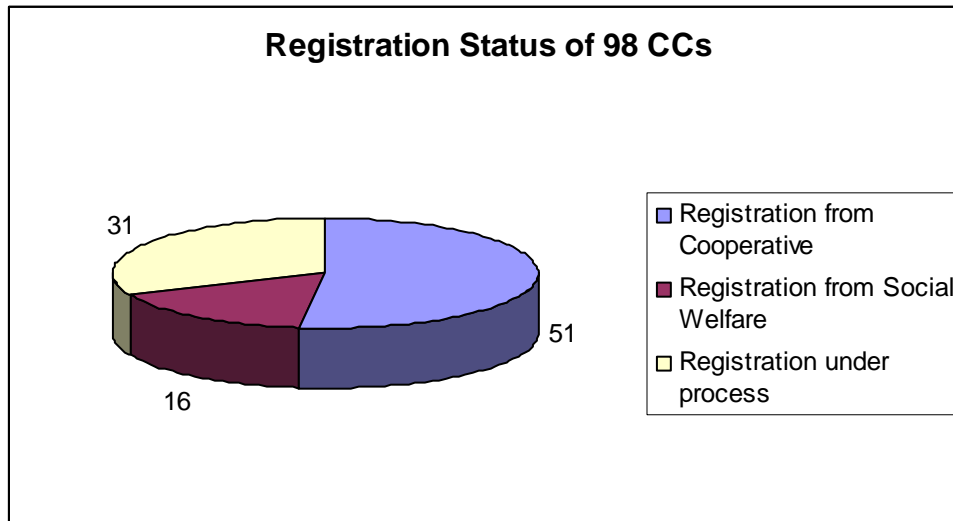
Every committee has three years duration and at the end of this tenure every committee must be formed newly through election and all general committee members participated as voters.

3.2.e. Hierarchical Depiction:



4. Registration Status of 98 CCs

Through out the country, a total of 98 CCs have been working actively amongst them 50 numbers of CC have been achieved registration from Cooperative Bureau of GoB, 16 numbers of CC from Social Welfare of GoB and remaining 32 numbers of CC under process of registration.



Pie Chart-1 shows Registration Status of 98 CCs in Bangladesh

5. Leadership and Networking of CC

CC Leaders' leadership has been developed pursuing democratic process from Ward Committee to Union level Coordination Committee. Preparing plan, making right decision for implementation of their programme, CC leaders have developed a leadership capacity in terms of programme implementation, management and accounts management transparently.

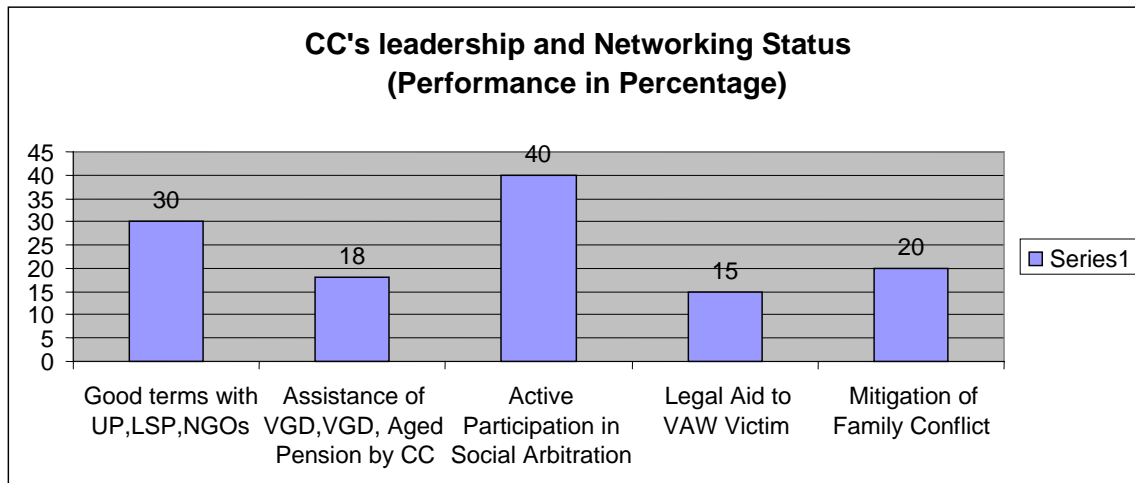
They have active participation in Social Arbitration and have good terms with UP Chairman, Members, and local elites.

In several cases, CC leaders themselves have been lifted with UP membership through UP election.

They have also close contact with Local Service Providers and NGOs through which they assist community people to articulate their rights, entitlements and services. Amongst 640 respondents 192 CCs' leaders responded that they have good terms with UP Chairmen and Members and 115 CC leaders have contribution to the provision of VGD, VGF, Aged Pension, Widow Pension and Disabled Pension, Birth Registration from Local Government for the community people. A total of 63 CC leaders claimed to include community people in the UP's Development Activities, requesting UP Chairman and Members. A total of 256 CC leaders of 640 participants responded that they take active part in Social Arbitration along with UP Chairman, UP Members. Similarly a total of 128 CC leaders of total participants minimize social or family conflict at family level or neighborhood level. 96 CC leaders claimed to take supportive measures for VAW victims with the assistance of BLAST, BRAC

Aain Sohayata Kendra, Village Court. Despite good terms with UP, LSP, CC leaders have close association with 03 to 09 NGOs and NBDs.

Woman leadership has also been developed by implementing socio-cultural activities and participating in social arbitration by women leaders of CC. In every CC Executive Committee, there are at least 03 female leaders whereas in some cases this number is 05 to 06.



Column Chart-1-Leadership and Networking Status of CC Leaders

5.1 Training Received by CC leaders

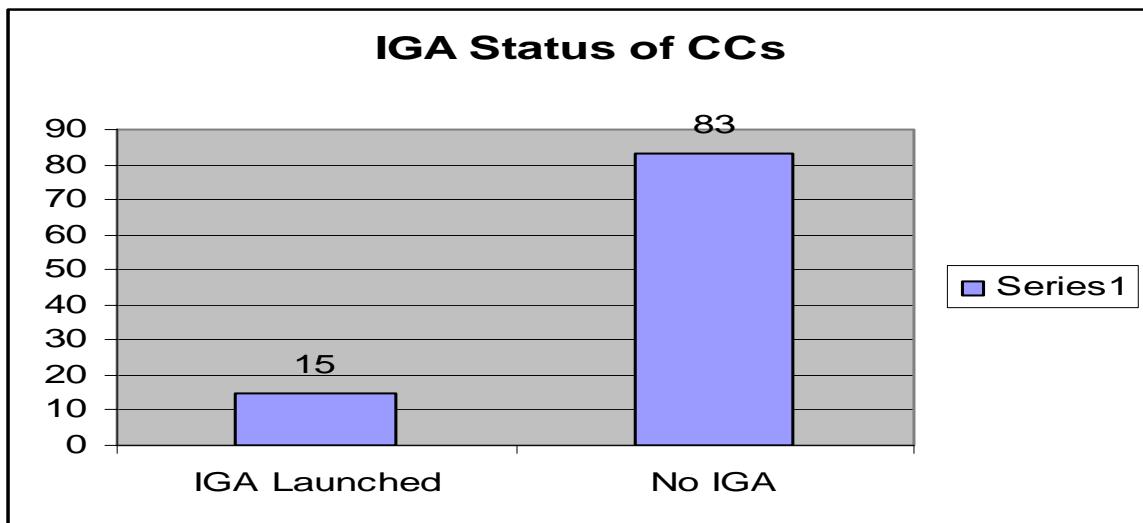
Almost in every CC, there are at least 03 leaders who have received Training either from CODEC or other Govt. and non Government Organizations such as Ahsania Mission, RFLDC, BRAC, SAP Bangladesh, Songram, Sushilon, Red Crescent Bangladesh, Youth Development Bureau, Agricultural Development Bureau, Livestock and Fisheries Development Bureau and so on. The following Training Courses they received from aforesaid or institutions:

1. Organization and Leadership Development –facilitated by CODEC
2. Human Rights- facilitated by CODEC
3. Para Legal- facilitated by CODEC
4. Accounts Management- facilitated by CODEC
5. Primary Health Care-by other NGOs or GoB
6. Livestock and Poultry- by other NGOs or GoB
7. Agriculture Development- by other NGOs or GoB
8. Fisheries Development- by other NGOs or GoB
9. Disaster Management- by other NGOs or GoB
10. Compost Fertilizer Preparation- by other NGOs or GoB
11. Seed Conservation- by other NGOs or GoB
12. TBA- by other NGOs or GoB
13. Homestead Gardening- by other NGOs or GoB
14. Nursery- by other NGOs or GoB
15. Education Development- by other NGOs or GoB

5.2 Implementation of IGA for Fund Raising

Fund raising through Group IGA is one of the most important objectives of Coordination Committee. Nevertheless, from 64 FGDs only 15 (fifteen) CCs have been found launching IGA. Some of the CCs have been formed newly that is why they could not launch any IGA. The below chart shows the status of CCs that are implementing IGAs:

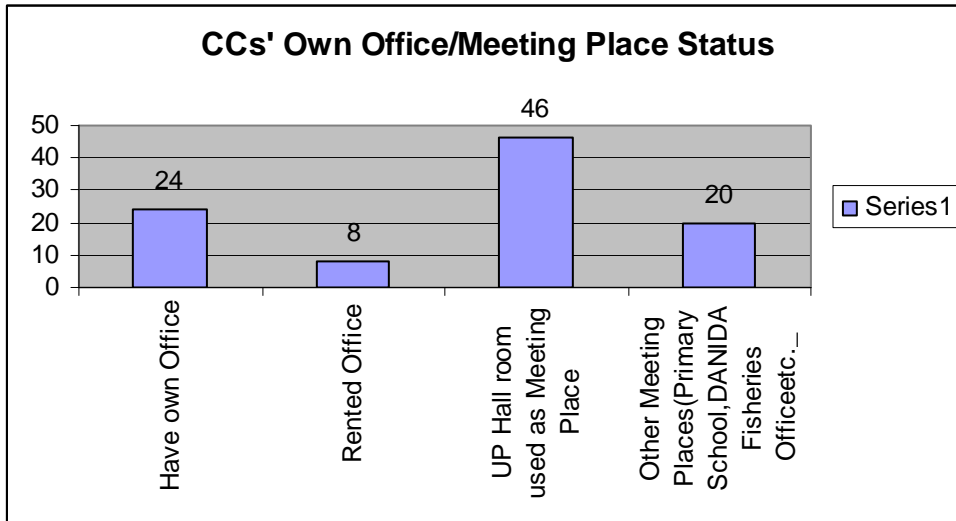
Sl #	Name of CC	Upazila	District	Name of IGA
01	12 No. Chargazi	Ramgati	Laxmipur	Rickshaw, Land Leasing
02	3 No. Char Falkan	Kamalnagar	Laxmipur	Rickshaw
03	1 No. Char Kalkini	Kamalnagar	Laxmipur	Cow Rearing
04	2 No. Char Bongshi	Raipur	Laxmipur	Soya bean Business
05	8 No. South Char Bongshi	Raipur	Laxmipur	Rickshaw
06	Char Ruhita	Laxmipur Sadar	Laxmipur	Rickshaw
07	Kutubpur	Begumgonj	Noakhali	Rickshaw
08	16 No. Char Jabbar	Subarnachar	Noakhali	Rickshaw
09	Ratandi Taltoli	Golachipa	Patuakhali	Rickshaw
10	M. Baliatoli	Borguna Sadar	Borguna	Van
11	Burirchar	Borguna Sadar	Borguna	Van, Rickshaw
12	Keorabunia	Borguna Sadar	Borguna	Rickshaw
13	Charduani	Patarghata	Borguna	Rickshaw
14	Panchkoralia	Amtoli	Borguna	Van
15	Boro Bogi	Amtoli	Borguna	Van



Column Chart-2 Shows the IGA Status of 98 CCs

5.3 CC's Own Office/ Landed Property Status:

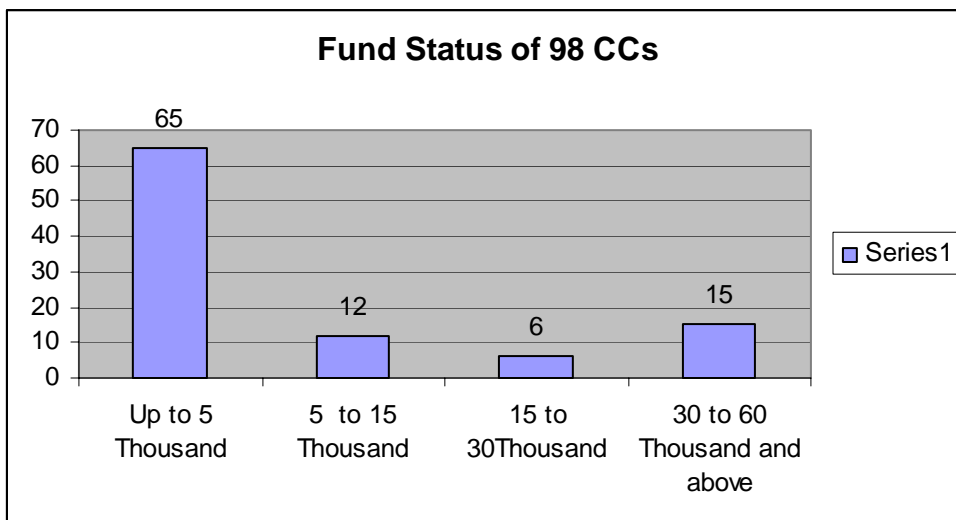
Amongst 98 Coordination Committee, those are comparatively older they have both fund and own office or few landed property alongside with their respective CC office. A total of 24 CCs have own office, 46 CCs have been using UP Hall room as their Meeting place while 20 CCs have been using other places like Primary School Room, DANIDA Fisheries Office etc. as their Meeting place.



Column Chart-3 shows the status of CCs' Meeting Place or possession of own office

5.4 CCs' Fund Availability

From various reports of SCDP it was found that almost all the CCs of 98 have more or less fund. A total of 65 CCs have up to 5000.00 BDT while 15 CCs have 30,000.00 to 60,000.00 BDT and above as general fund. Only twelve number of (12) CCs have 15,000.00 to 30,000.00 BDT as fund.



Column Chart-4 shows the Fund Status of 98 CCs in Borguna, Patuakhali Districts

Some CCs have deposited their fund in Bank as FDR and invested for IGA. Some CCs in Laxmipur region have received fund for IGA initiation from RFLDC.

Their status is given in the bellow chart:

Sl #	Name of CC	Upazila	District	FDR/ Savings (BDT)
01	. Taltoli CC	Aamtoli	Borguna	50,000.00
02	Chotobogi CC	Aamtoli	Borguna	76,000.00
03	Burir Char	Borguna Sadar	Borguna	64,000.00
04	Rangabali CC	Golachipa	Patuakhali	13,000.00(Savings)
05	Panpotty CC	Golachipa	Patuakhali	1,00,000.00
06	Aamkhola CC	Golachipa	Patuakhali	52,000.00 (savings)
07	Syedpur	Sitakunda	Chittagong	85,000.00 (savings)
08	Barkal	Chandanaish	Chittagong	40,000.00(savings)
09	7No.Char Alexander	Ramgati	Laxmipur	30,000.00 (savings)
10	12 No. Char Gazi	Ramgati	Laxmipur	60,000.00(savings)
11	3 No. Char Falkan	Kamalnagar	Laxmipur	63,000.00(savings)
12	1 No. Char Kalkini	Kamalnagar	Laxmipur	65,000.00(savings)
13	2 No. Char Bongshi	Raipur	Laxmipur	28,000.00(savings)
14	8 No. Char Bongshi	Raipur	Laxmipur	30,000.00(savings)
15	Char Ruhita	Laxmipur Sadar	Laxmipur	32,000.00(savings)
16	16 No. Char Jabbar	Subarnachar	Noakhali	60,000.00(savings)

6. CCs' Resolution Writing Skill and Documentation Management Skill

Almost all the CC Leaders have the capacity of writing their own Meeting Resolution. However, their tendency of writing is brief and agenda is as usual of programme implementation related.

A few of CCs keep record of their voluntary activity, solution of Social Arbitration, services provided to the community or assistance of availing rights and entitlements from local government for the deprived community people.

Amongst 64 CCs only 13 were found keeping records of above mentioned services in the resolution or in a separate register.

7. CCs' Prospective Activity

In the sustainable development of community, CCs have been playing important role and influence and sustainability are more effective as it is non political, non biased organization. Through practicing governance, CC leadership can raise awareness on various coastal issues and they are serving the common interests of common coastal community. It has far reaching influence over community people to build progressive attitude, protecting values and in many cases changing behaviour.

In order to eradicate poverty, CCs have prospects of playing role as Catalyst for the people at root level. Following Public Private Partnership strategy for economic solvency, long term initiatives can emerge CCs as prospective social entrepreneur.

8. Influencing Factors to the Context of Socio-cultural Environment

8.1 Contributing Factors:

There are some influencing factors to the context of Socio-political environment that causes both contributing and antipathy type results on Coordination Committees. Due to political biasness CC might endangered themselves from being a sustainable CBO. On the contrary, sometimes political biasness of CC leaders might be useful for the time being but consequently this political biasness factor is hazardous for sustainability of CC. The CC leaders should avoid this type of opportunity.

8.2 Livelihood Factors:

Livelihood factors result both inclusion and exclusion of community people to the CC. When CC plays role of Service or Information Centre for the community and people accept CC as a reliable platform to raise their voice in respect of rights and entitlements , they include themselves with CC and feel ownership of the organization. On the contrary, people remains busy with their own livelihoods and during fishing, cultivating and harvesting season they have little time to spend for CC's Activity.

8.3 Location Factors:

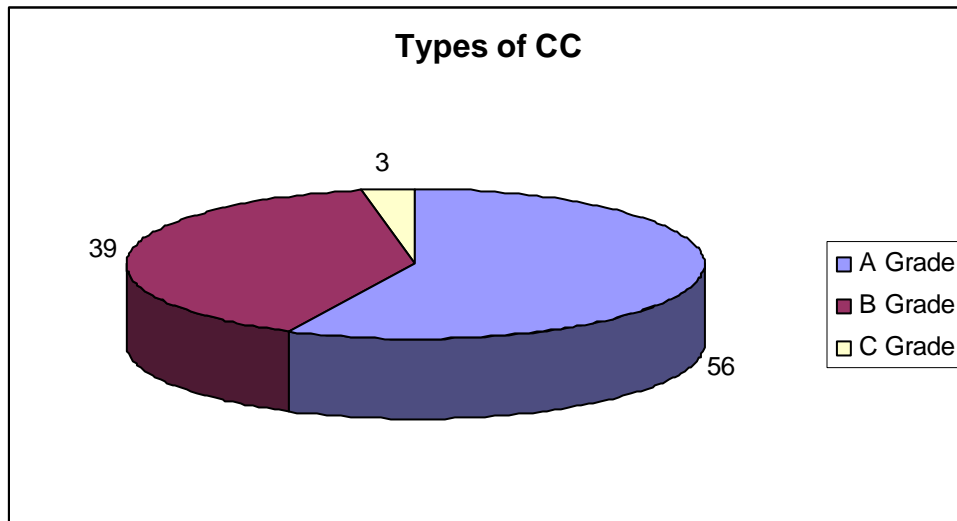
Location is a big factor for the development of a reliable platform like CC for the community. Remote and underprivileged people have very little scope to articulate their rights and entitlements. Therefore, CCs have become a reliable platform from where they can raise their voice collectively. Being coastal and riverine regional people, they are excluded with the main land. Eventually, people face various psychosocial problems. In this regard, CC becomes the apex platform for the community that could lead them to the way of sustainable socio-cultural and economic development.

8.4 Environment/ Climate Change Factors:

The assigned study areas are in the coastal belt of Bangladesh. As a result, tidal surge, tornado, strike this area frequently and left behind devastation. Besides, excessive rainfall, river erosion, char land rising, are common natural calamities faced by the community people. Due to climate change Coastal People suffer most but they are not provided adequate support to adapt or mitigate the sufferings on the long term basis. Sustainable developments of the community through relief or input support oriented programmes are but failure. Endangered livelihoods like fishing, agriculture result migration to the city. In this context, CCs can play vital role to create alternative livelihoods through implementing IGAs, utilizing their local services and resources. CCs have records of assisting Local Government voluntarily to prepare list of natural catastrophe affected people and distributing relief during SIDR and AYL A in 2007 and in 2008 respectively.

9. Facilitation and Recommendation for further improvement

In accordance with CODEC's Monitoring Check list discussion was held with every CC and Facilitation for their further improvement areas were also discussed as well. Amongst 98 CCs 56 numbers are graded as "A", 39 numbers are as "B" and 03 numbers as "C". A total of 32 numbers of "A" graded and 30 numbers of "B" graded and 02 numbers of "C" graded CCs have been visited that have almost same characteristics and same challenges to overcome.



Pie Chart-2 portrays three types of CC

Following are the results of discussion of the assigned Coordination Committees:

9.1 Facts and Findings of "A" Grade Coordination Committee:

Observation:

- Organizational Constitution is known to all CC leaders and they can explain formation process of WC and CC well
- CC Executive Members can explain goal and objectives of CC well
- Regular Meetings are held in specific date of month
- CC has Yearly Activity Plan and members can explain the activity well
- CC's Fund Management is transparent and members know the amount they have
- Have close communication with UP, LSP and NGOs but no record keeping of helping articulation of people's entitlements i.e. VGF, VGD, Birth registration, Widow Pension, Aged Pension, Disabled Pension etc.
- Few members have active participation in the Social Arbitration but no record in register
- CC has been registered from Cooperative or Social Welfare Bureau of GoB
- Women's participation in CC leadership is obvious and in several cases local UP female member are in the committee

Facilitation:

- Goals and Objectives of Ward Committee and Coordination Committee have been requested to explain in the Ward Committee Meeting
- Responsibilities of WC and CC leaders are explained through discussion
- Organizational Constitution and its necessity and importance have been explained to the members
- Necessity of active participation of women and women empowerment have been discussed and explained
- How to increase social acceptance is explained

Recommendation:

- CC leaders need to be more vibrant to increase communication with Union Parishad and other local service providers, NGOs
- To increase acceptance of CC leaders, they should participate various social and development activities of UP such as, listing VGD, VGF, Widow Pension, Aged Pension, Disabled Pension, and birth registration proactively
- In a Brown Paper Yearly Activity Calendar can be prepared
- Various social activities like Social Arbitration and its results need to be recorded in a service registered or Meeting Resolution
- A list of Local Service Providers, NGOs and their respective phone numbers can be hung on the wall of CC Office/ Meeting Place

9.2 Facts and Findings of “B” Grade Coordination Committee:

Observation:

- CC’s formation process is followed by their own constitution though all members are not acquainted with the Organizational Bi-laws
- Members cannot explain Goals and Objectives of CC but they can describe the activities that they carry out
- CC’s Monthly Executive Meeting and General Meeting are found regular but still some of them are dependant on CODEC personnel for resolution writing
- CC has yearly activity plan and implement accordingly
- Has communication with Union Parishad and other local service providers, NGOs but not influential and no record keeping of helping articulation of people’s entitlements i.e. VGF, VGD, Birth registration, Widow Pension, Aged Pension, Disabled Pension etc.
- A few CC members have acceptance in the community and they take part in the social arbitration
- Recognition from GoB side i.e. registration from Cooperative is under process

- Female members are enlisted in the CC's Executive and General Committee but in decision making their participation is dim

Facilitation:

- Goal and Objectives of Ward Committee and Coordination Committee have been explained and requested them to do same in the Ward Committee Meeting
- Responsibilities of WC and CC leaders are explained through discussion
- Organizational Constitution and its necessity and importance have been explained to the members
- Necessity of active participation of women and women empowerment have been discussed and explained
- How to increase social acceptance is explained
- Necessity of good communication and networking with UP, LSP, NGOs is explained

Recommendation:

- CC leaders need to visit WC regularly and discuss about formation process, organizational constitution along with other scheduled topics and social issues
- Meeting Resolution need to be written by CC leaders themselves and reduce dependency on CODEC personnel entirely
- During preparation of Yearly Activity Plan female members should take part actively
- CC leaders need to be more vibrant to increase communication with Union Parishad and other local service providers, NGOs
- To increase acceptance of CC leaders, they should participate various social and development activities of UP such as, listing VGD, VGF, Widow Pension, Aged Pension, Disabled Pension, and birth registration proactively
- In a Brown Paper Yearly Activity Calendar can be prepared
- Various social activities like Social Arbitration and its results need to be recorded in a service register or Meeting Resolution
- A list of Local Service Providers, NGOs and their respective phone numbers can be hung on the wall of CC Office/ Meeting Place

9.3 Facts and Findings of “C” Grade Coordination Committee

To avoid repetition for “C” grade CCs above mentioned facilitation has been done, and recommendation of both “A” and “B” grade CCs is applicable.

Conclusion:

CODEC has been facilitating 98 CCs in Coastal Bangladesh in order to establish them as self reliant and potential CBO since 2007 following CDD perception. In this journey, CCs have gathered vast experiences of Socio-Cultural activity implementation. They are now capable of leading their respective communities for any development initiatives. Moreover, for their proactive leadership, social acceptance has been increased remarkably. As a result, a good term has been established in between CCs, Local Government, LSP and NGOs. Receiving variety of development oriented training courses, from CODEC, NBDs, and other NGOs, CC Leaders are now becoming Effective means of Issue Handler in the community. Now it is obvious that Coordination Committees are turning to Community Based Organization in its true sense through following Community Driven Development perception. However, they have some typical challenges like local politics, grouping, and reluctance to work together, they have vast opportunities to play role of catalyst with local government and community for their social advancement and economic progress.

