Presentation by

Rowshan Jahan
Program Coordinator
Association for Land Reform and Development
Email: alrd@agni.com
rjmoni2003@yahoo.com

Good Governance & access to productive resources

1. Access to productive resource is the most appropriate proxy to address poverty and poverty (economic and Human) eradication
   - It's a political resource that defines power relations and Human dignity
   - Must be seen as rights-highly political and sensitive
   - Empower marginal and disadvantaged people in particular to claim and assert land rights

2. Marginal and disadvantaged access to productive natural resources
   Who are they?
   - Indigenous People & their vulnerability to dispossession from ancestral land & forest as their customary rights not been recognised properly
   - Women’s access to Land-discriminatory, guided by religious law
   - Religious Minorities’ Rights to Land
   - Fisher folk’s inaccessibility to Water Bodies – policy is not poor friendly & issue of financial and technical capacity
   - Urban Poor’s Inaccessibility to Land
Instruments: CEDAW, UN declaration on IPs rights, ILO Convention
Sustainable land management

1. Tenural security related issues:
   • The Sharecropping System
   • The Rights of the Agriculture Labours
   • Absentee Land Ownership
   • Land Litigation

2. Land Use Regulation, Market force driven land use - Commercialization of agriculture, aquaculture and forest
   Commercialization of Shrimp Cultivation:
   • The concept of high-value, high-quality produce
   • shifted shrimp production process from natural livelihood and traditional production systems to a commercial venture
   • and rapidly got promoted in Bangladesh
   • From 20,000 hec -410,000 hec within 15 years time

Commercialization of Shrimp Cultivation:

It resulted in
• Degradation of the Sundarbans (world largest mangrove forest ), coastal and inland eco-systems
• Grabbing and displacement of local communities, women health hazard, conflict and violence
• loss of agricultural land, livestock, livelihood opportunities and decreasing of food security and water pollution

Shrimp Seal of Quality (SSOQ )project:

The principal contractor of this project is the giant agro-based multinational company The Louis Berger Group, Inc along with Cargill and Land O’ Lakes (Biscuit company) acting as its two sub-contractors.
Holistic approach to the planning, implementation and follow-up

- NOT to deal with the symptom with welfare approach but with the root cause
- ICCARD, WCARRD, JOPI are instruments. CiRDAP is to follow-up WCARRD
- International agreement and integrated approach with full responsibility
- Regional organisations in Asia–ASEAN, SAARC, etc. and agreements like SAFTA (South Asian Fee Trade Area), SAPTA (South Asian
- NGO, CSO’s well defined role with full authority at all level in promoting CSD agenda
- Three Nobel Laureates: Rabindranath Tagore, Prof. Amartya Sen, Dr. Md. Yunus
- The Champion of the Earth Award-2008 in the Asia and the Pacific region.
- Grainger Challenge Prize award by US National Academy of Engineering