

Chars Livelihoods Programme

Duration: July 2004 – June 2011

Partners: Maxwell Stamp PLC

Funded by: Department for International Development

Objectives:

To improve livelihood security for the poor and vulnerable women, men and children living within the riverine areas of 5 districts of the northern Jamuna in Bangladesh. The CLP is designed to impact the lives of the six million residents in this area and to influence the policies and processes that govern their lives at a local, regional and national level. The three outputs of the programme will be as follows:

- **Output 1**, ‘Reduced vulnerability of char dwellers through targeted provision of infrastructure and services’, will ensure that chars union parishads and upazilas are better able to respond to local needs and demands and deliver improved services (particularly social) and infrastructure at both local and chars-wide levels.
- **Output 2**, ‘Poor char dwellers able to effectively sustain their livelihoods and engage in the local and national economy’ by broadening economic opportunities and strengthening productive livelihood strategies (including targeting vulnerable groups – female headed households and adolescent girls). This will reduce food insecurity; increase employment opportunities and income, and permit people to accumulate assets, which will improve their ability to cope with future shocks to their livelihoods without falling deeper into poverty.
- **Output 3**, ‘Poor chars dwellers effectively influence local and national policy and service provision as citizens’, addresses the issues of ‘voice’ (including effective participation in local-level planning and accountability mechanisms for government services), and the development of a platform for evidence-based influence to ensure national policies and structures reflect the needs of poor and vulnerable chars dwellers.