



## Project Final Report

Name of the Organization: The Green Edit Team



Submission Date: Jan 25, 2025.

### Project Information (250 words)

- **Briefly describe about the project**

Chittagong Hill Tracts (Rangamati, Bandarban and Khagrachari) region is located in the southeast of Bangladesh. This region is rich with scenic nature, biodiversity and cultural diversity. This part of the country is also renowned for its large amount of teak wood production. Due to the high economic value of teak woods, this region's inhabitants engage themselves in Teak tree monoculture. Because of this cultivation practice, several negative impacts arise in that particular region, such as deteriorated soil nutrients, soil erosion, biodiversity loss, disasters (landslides, flash floods), water crises, etc. To address this matter, an 'Awareness Campaign and Incorporating An Audio-Visual Documentary' focused on the negative impact of teak trees is being initiated in the region.

- **Start and end date of the project:**

Start date: May 9, 2025

End date: Jan 25, 2025

- **Targeted participants of the project:** (Identify the primary group(s) that the project is intended to benefit. For example, "Farmers, women, men, youth women, youth men or any other.")

Target Participants of the project CHAKMA indigenous community- students, farmers, youth leader, karbaari (chakma village chief) and women.

- **Location of the project:** (Specify the geographical area where the project will be implemented, such as the Village, Union, Upazila, district.)
  - 1) Maiggemachara Mohajanpara Ghagra, Khawkhali Upazila, Rangamati District
  - 2) Pukurchari Kutukchari, Naniachar Upazila, Rangamati District
  - 3) Hazzachara Subolong, Barkal Upazila, Rangamati District

**Objective of the Project (Write down in bullet points)**

- Adoption of diversified agroforestry practices and the cultivation of native tree species.
- Raise awareness among local communities, stakeholders, policy makers about the disadvantage of teak trees.

**Measuring progress of the project**

	Name of activities	Target	Progress	Remarks
1	Participant Selection and community campaign	Reach community leaders, and local youth; organize group discussions to highlight the teak monoculture problem.	Direct outreaches were conducted, substantial participation from target audiences	1) Timely full fund disbursement would have improved engagement and reach further. 2) Political instability in the region and all over the country created occasional disruptions
2	Incorporating an Audio-Visual Documentary	Produce a documentary capturing the impacts of teak monoculture and showcasing community experiences.	A teaser video was released, achieving significant engagement (44.3K views, 133 shares, 457 reactions).	Positive audience response highlighted the documentary's impact, but delays in funding affected capturing key environmental conditions during the dry season
	Seed Distribution to Community	Promote Mixed Argo-Forest Practice	Reached three areas in Rangamati, with 42 individuals receiving seeds to promote our goal	Community showed great interest in adapting to mixed agro practices

**Narrate the achievement of your project according to your project objectives**

**Objective 1: Promoting Alternative Forestry Practices**

One of our key achievements was raising awareness about sustainable alternatives to teak monoculture, including agroforestry systems and native tree cultivation. Through training community discussions, we engaged local leaders, youth, and community members to introduce the benefits of cultivating diverse and economically viable tree species such as guava, banana, papaya, and seasonal fruits. These efforts laid the groundwork for behavioral shifts toward sustainable forestry practices that protect biodiversity and improve soil health.

**Objective 2: Raising Awareness on the Negative Impacts of Teak Monoculture**

Our awareness campaigns reached both local and wider audiences. We used a multifaceted approach, including:

- Workshops targeting community leaders, farmers, and youth.
- A teaser of our documentary, viewed over 40,000 times on social media, sparked meaningful engagement and discussions about the environmental and socio-economic harms caused by teak monoculture. This achievement not only informed but also inspired participants to take proactive steps toward sustainable practice. Moreover, most of the Indigenous youth thank us for making this type of awareness video, especially about practices that harm nature. A person named Uddipan Chakma wrote a comment request to make this type of awareness video about "Tobacco farming."

**People reached**

- **Number of people reached directly through project interventions.**

Event/Activities	Number of people reached		Total
	Women	Men	
Community discussion /campaign	11	21	32
Interview	2	8	10
Total- 2	13	29	42

Total number of people reached directly: .....42..... ( Women 13 and Men 29 )

- **Number of people reached through social media (On awareness raising issues)**

Posting date in social media	Number of people reached (Viewer)	Social media Link (FB/YouTube)
May 10,2024	Facebook Post React 69	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1A6cVziSZC/">https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1A6cVziSZC/</a>

May 11, 2024	Facebook Post React 17	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/share/p/19kAps3xdP/">https://www.facebook.com/share/p/19kAps3xdP/</a>
<b>Sep 11, 2024</b>	<b>Facebook awareness Reels on Teak trees Viewer 1.1K</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/share/r/14pvSvd5ot/">https://www.facebook.com/share/r/14pvSvd5ot/</a>
Sep 15, 2024	Facebook post React 34	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1B2V4yB1j6/">https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1B2V4yB1j6/</a>
Oct 14, 2024	Facebook post React 27	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1QpFZ8Uwhu/">https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1QpFZ8Uwhu/</a>
<b>Oct 17, 2024</b>	<b>A teaser video was released, achieving significant engagement (44.3K views, 133 shares, 457 reactions).</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/share/v/15SWvF6EHG/">https://www.facebook.com/share/v/15SWvF6EHG/</a>
Total	More than 45,000	

Total number of people reached (social media): Large Amount of Audience Response ( Unable to detect based on Men and Women )

**The CAP-RES project has three objectives as follows:**

**Objective 1:** Create an enabling environment and encourage individuals to enhance their knowledge of climate change issues and develop their problem-solving skills.

**Objective 2:** Generate factual evidence from local practices to scale up at the global level.

**Objective 3:** Improve institutional efficiency and effectiveness in decision-making and putting into practice in climate intervention.

**Based on these above objectives which one is more relevant to your project? How did your project objectives and activities achieve this objective? (Maximum 200 words)**

The first objective of the CAP-RES project, "Create an enabling environment and foster individuals to enhance their knowledge of climate change issues and develop problem-solving skills," strongly aligns with our project, "*Chittagong Hill Tracts Green Revival: Combating Teak Monoculture for a Sustainable Future.*" Our project works to create a sustainable environment by fighting Teak Monoculture.

Our project works to build an enabling environment through education about how teak monoculture affects both people and the environment. We improved the knowledge of attendees through our community discussion and campaign, fieldwork, and documentary production about ecological and ecofriendly farming techniques.

Our program showed people ways to improve forestry methods by selecting multiple tree types, which helped them find ways to fix problems caused by monoculture. Video footage

from indigenous elders and expert environmentalists helped communities better understand and apply sustainable ideas.

Our initiatives brought together different forest stakeholders to discuss common forest management issues. By teaching people and communities how to protect their environment, we support both goals.

### Skills/Capacity

- What new skills/capacity have you developed?

#### 1) Team Collaboration

Working in a team from different fields, respecting diverse perspectives, and ensuring clear communication.

#### 2) Arranging Communities Workshop

We contacted the local Indigenous community, who is directly involved with teak monoculture, and successfully arranged an awareness community workshop on the impact of teak monoculture.

#### 3) Dealing With Professional People

Reaching experts and working according to their guidance.

- What knowledge or skills do you think would have improved your project?

#### A) Inclusiveness of team members from all communities and different discipline:

- 1) Eco Talukder, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Chittagong.
- 2) Farhana Ayushi, Department of Communication and Journalism, University of Chittagong.
- 3) Durjoy Bhowmick, Department of Economics, University of Chittagong.
- 4) Nirvik Chakma, Department of HRM, Premier University, Chittagong.
- 5) Kurnikova Chakma, Department of Anthropology, University of Dhaka.
- 6) Zico Chakma, the Department of Communication and Journalism, University of Chittagong.
- 7) Mong Sai Shwe Marma , Department of Communication and Journalism, University of Chittagong.
- 8) Omeek Chakma, Department of Pali, University of Chittagong.
- 9) Anton chakma, Department of Statistics, University of Chittagong.
- 10) Harsha Bordhan chakma , Department of Pali, University of Chittagong.
- 11)Bhubon chakma, Department of History, University of Chittagong.
- 12) Arafath Hasan Hridoy, Department of Communication and Journalism, University of Chittagong.

#### B) Team collaboration among team members.

#### C) Expert Suggestion by

**1) Dr. Kazi Mohammad Mesbaul Alam**

Professor, Department of Botany, University of Chittagong

**2) Dr. Iqbal Sarwar**

Professor, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Chittagong

**“Lesson-learned” of your project**

**Community Involvement:** Involving local people, leaders, and youth strengthened our project. Their input and participation helped us better understand the problem and find practical solutions.

**Raising Awareness Makes a Difference:** Many people in the Chittagong Hill Tracts were not fully aware of how harmful teak monoculture is. Our campaigns showed that Awareness can lead to behavior change and inspire action.

**Challenges Require Flexibility:** Delays in funding and political instability slowed us down, but adjusting plans, communicating openly, and finding alternative solutions helped us stay on track.

**Social media Tool:** Releasing our documentary teaser on Facebook showed us the potential of digital platforms. It reached a large audience, sparked interest, and encouraged conversations about the issue.

**Partnerships are Important:** Working with community leaders, organizations, and experts made it easier to overcome obstacles and achieve our goals.

**Listening to Feedback Helps Improve:** Feedback from community members and viewers of the teaser gave us new ideas and motivation to continue our work.

**What are the challenges/Risks you faced during the project activities? How you overcome/minimize those challenges?**

**Challenges:**

**1) Late Fund Disbursement:**

The delay in disbursing funds affected our workframe, particularly for the documentary production and campaign. As a result, we were unable to capture the environmental conditions during the dry season, a critical period for demonstrating the impacts of teak monoculture.

This season is essential for documenting issues like soil erosion, water scarcity, and vegetation stress, which are more prominent during this time.

**2) Political Instability in the Country and the Chittagong Hill Tracts:**

During the Country's anti-discrimination movement, we had to pause our work. And also The Chittagong Hill Tracts region's political dynamics, including ongoing conflict between regional political groups, mainstreams, and indigenous communities, occasionally disrupted our activities, especially community campaigns and workshops. Safety concerns for both our team and participants arose, and some areas became temporarily inaccessible.

**Minimize:**

**1) Late Fund Disbursement:**

To address this challenge effectively, we decided to use our pocket money to visit the study area and collect essential footage.

**2) Political Instability in the Country and the Chittagong Hill Tracts:**

To address this challenge, we contacted local community leaders and selected a safer place to conduct our task effectively.



**Selected best 5/6 pictures of the project intervention**



**pic 1: Interviewing with elders (location: Maiggemachara Mohajanpara Ghagra, Khawkhali Upazila, Rangamati District)**



**pic 2: Campaign with local Communities and showing visual art work (location: Pukurchari Kutukchari, Naniachar Upazila, Rangamati District)**

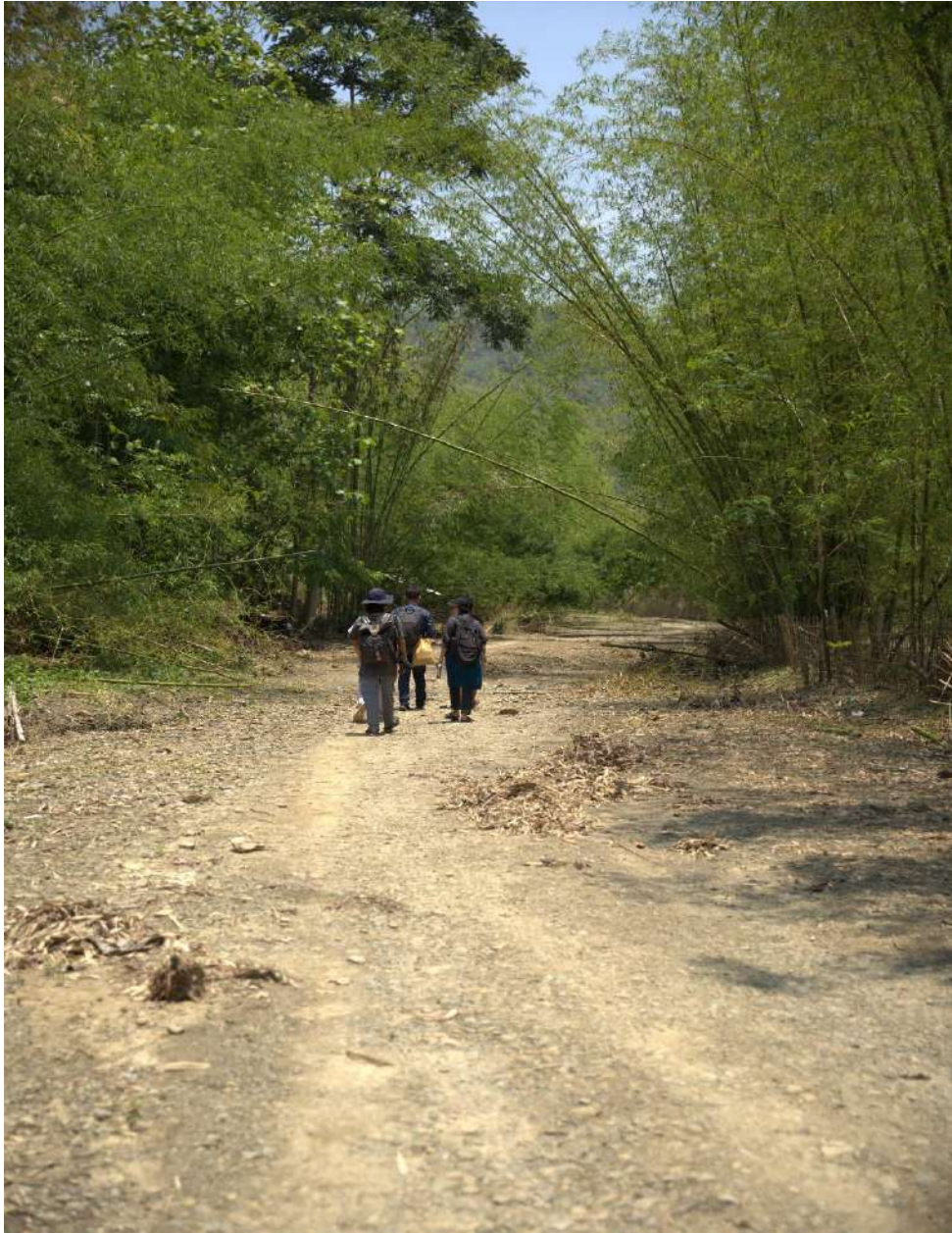


**pic 3:** Team were interviewing with Mr. Sarnaketu Chakma (resident Hazzachara Subolong, Barkal Upazila, Rangamati District) who was involved with teak planation, he was sharing his insights. (**location:** Hazzachara Subolong, Barkal Upazila, Rangamati District)



**pic 4:** Interview with Professor Dr. Kazi Mohammad Mesbaul Alam (Department of Botany, University of Chittagong), sharing his insights how to mitigate teak mono-culture impact.





**pic 5:** Stream (locally in Chakma Language it's call 'chora' which was totally dry and ecosystem imbalance (**location:** Maiggemachara Mohajanpara Ghagra, Khawkhali Upazila, Rangamati District)



**pic 6:** Interviewing with Mr. Aniruddo Chakma (owner of M/S. Sakura Furniture). Mr. Chakma sharing his experience about Teak wood, it's demand and alternative wood. (**location:** Rangamati Sadar, Rangamati District)