Community Conserved Areas of Bangladesh

• The current pattern of CCA management in the CHT involves only semi-structured or unstructured methods

• In some cases, CCA management involves the entire adult population of a particular village

• The exact number and extent of CCAs within the CHT are not known. Most of the reported CCAs are small in areas.
LEGAL STATUS OF CCAs & CCA MANAGEMENT

1. The management and protection of Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) is sanctioned by law, particularly rule 41A of the CHT Regulation, 1900 – which vests the primary responsibility to the traditional Mauza headman.

2. In 1939 through an amendment in CHT Regulation provided formal government recognition to the VCFs.
MAJOR CHALLENGES

• There is no official recognition of traditional knowledge of VCFs/CCAs

• No active and focused measures have been taken by government agencies to protect and promote VCFs/CCAs

• The national laws & policies do not support conservation of VCFs/CCAs by indigenous communities

• Uncontrolled marketization and privatization accelerated indigenous communities to break-up their unity and integrity

• VCF/CCA areas decreasing at the expense of Plantations and Horticulture

• The sharp rise in the population of the Hill Tracts, through births and state-sponsored in-migration has led to increased pressure on the natural resources of the region
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SUSTAINABILITY OF VCFs/CCAs

* Title to the VCFs should be secured in the name of the CCA community as a collective property.

* Demarcation of boundary and resource mapping of VCFs/CCAs

* Livelihood support to CCA communities

* Recognition & support to indigenous and local knowledge, innovations & practices

* Development of a strong network among the VCF/CCA communities