

7th Five Year Plan and Development Vision for CHT, Bangladesh

Key note paper presented in Consultation Meeting on
“Seventh Five Year Plan and Development Vision for Chittagong Hill
Tracts, Bangladesh organized by the Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts
Affairs, Planning Commission & ICIMOD on May 11, 2015 in Dhaka

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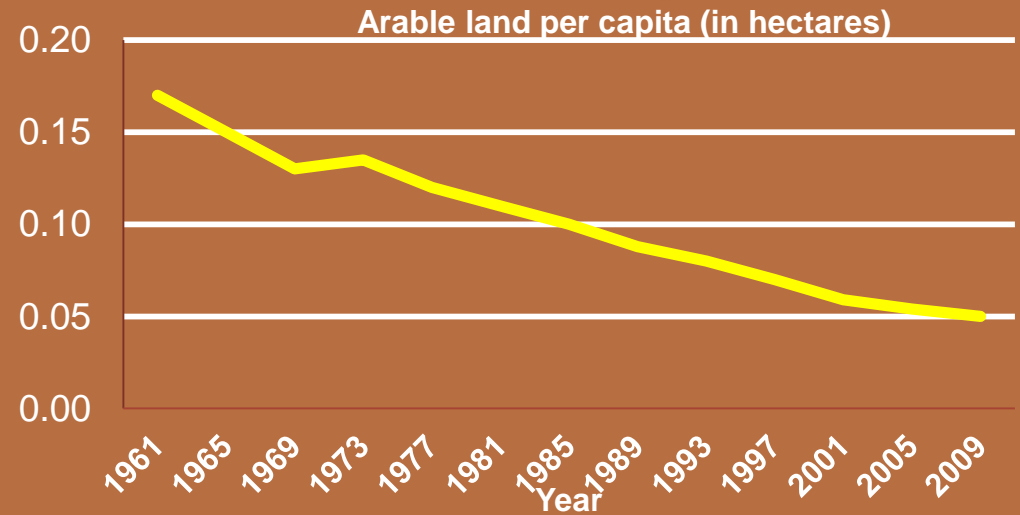
International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development

Kathmandu, Nepal

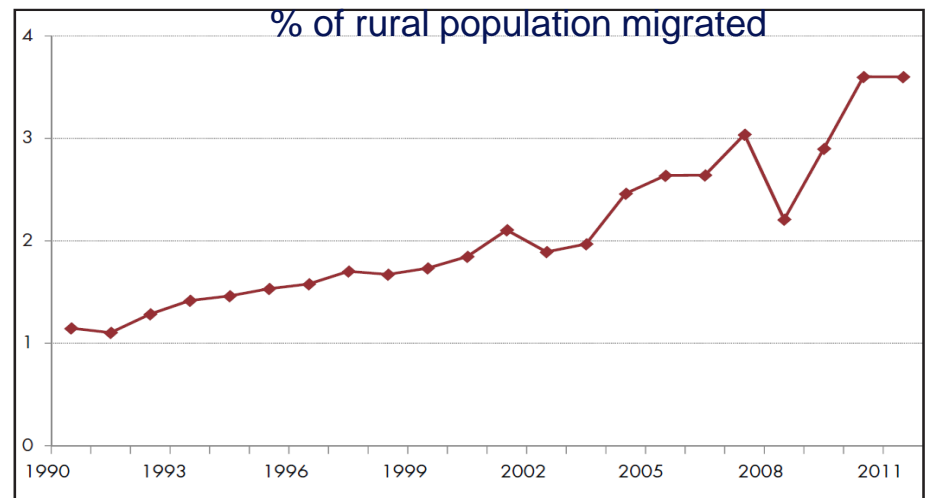
- Growth trajectory of Bangladesh
- Socio-economic development in CHT
- Development challenges in CHT
- Potential & opportunities
- Why CHT deserves special attention
- Framework for inclusive growth in CHT

Growth Trajectory of Bangladesh

From 'bottomless basket' to emerging economy

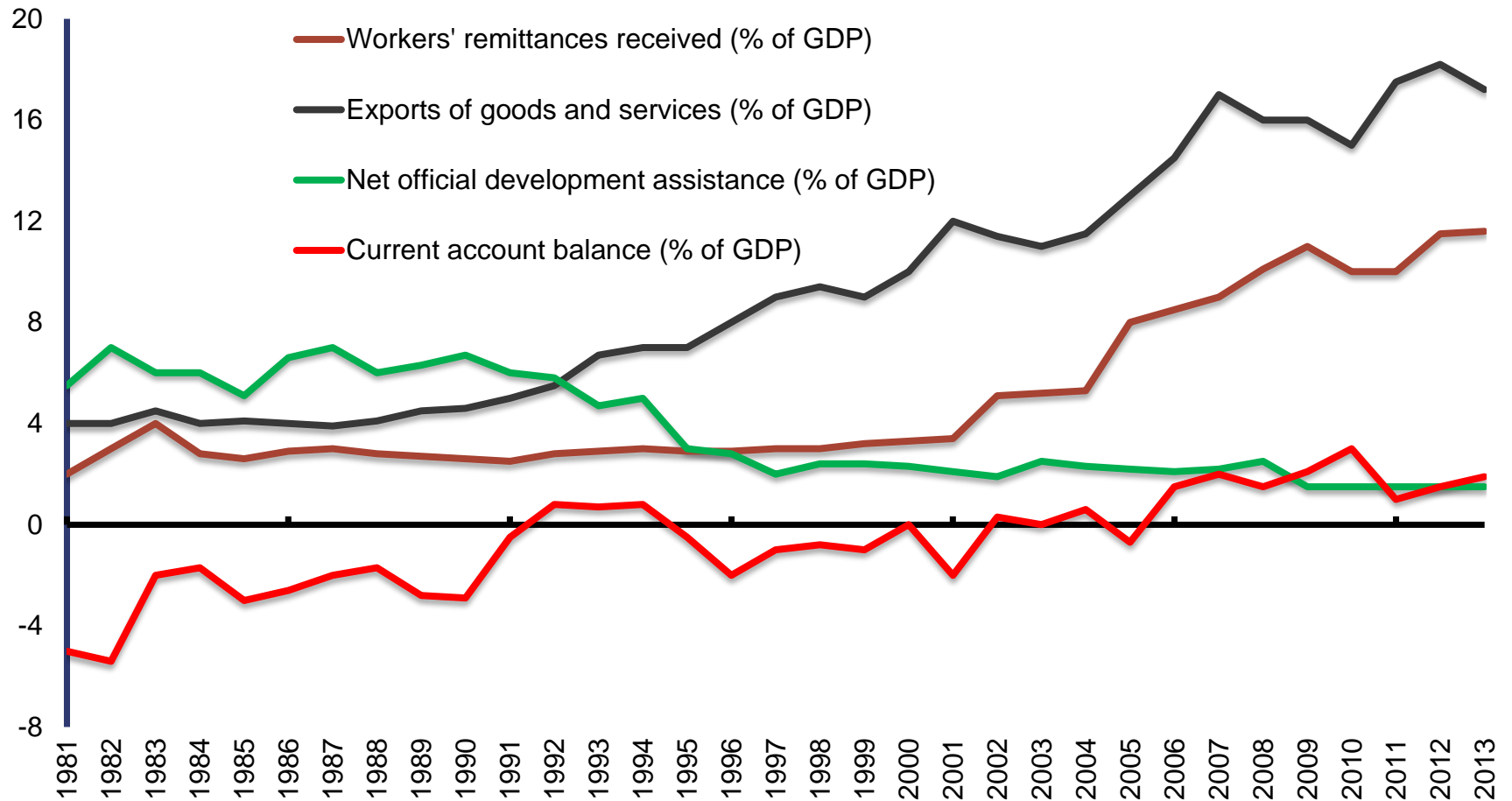


Source: Helal and Hossain, 2013

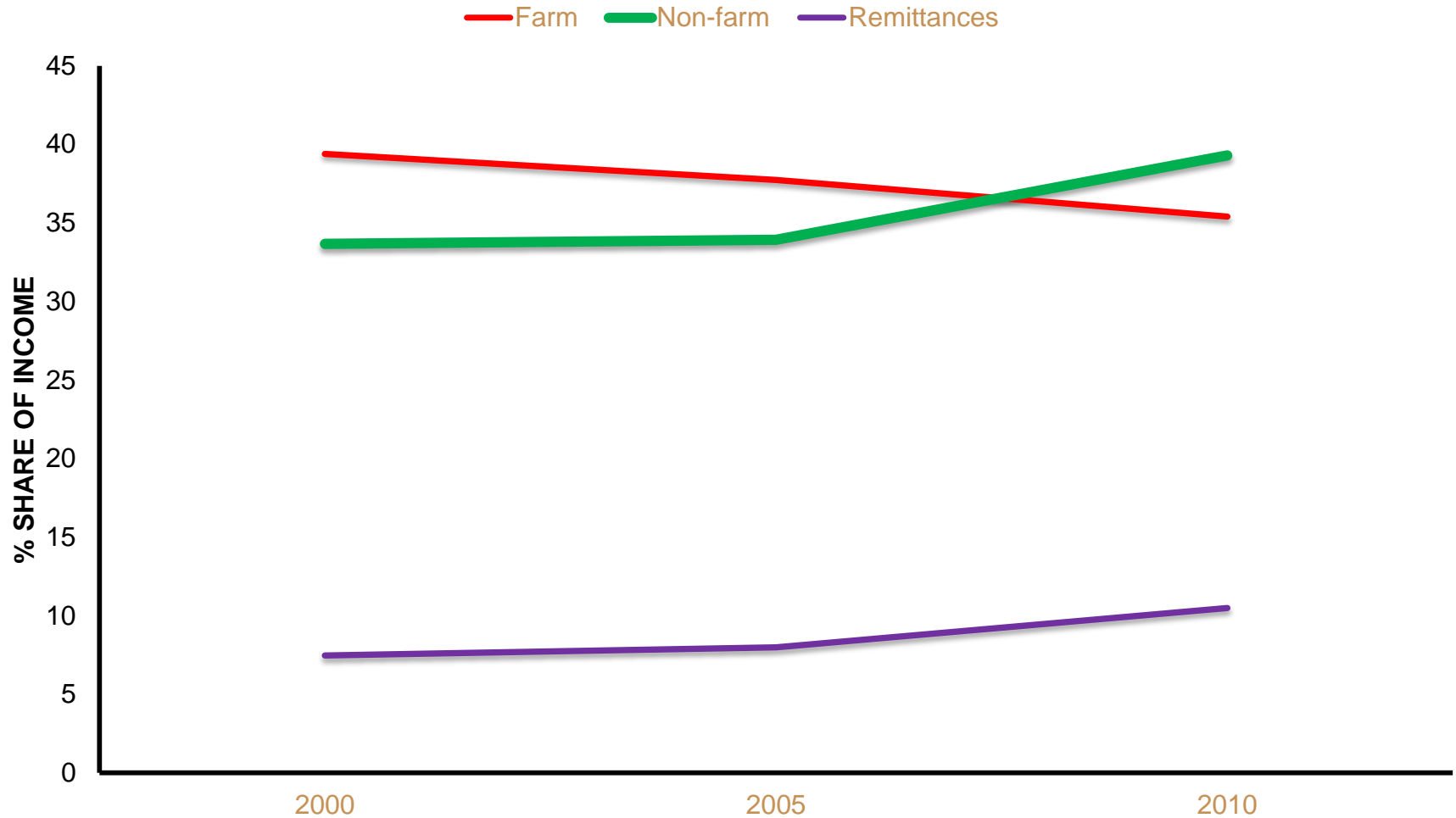


Source: Bangladesh economic survey 2014

Economy: structural change

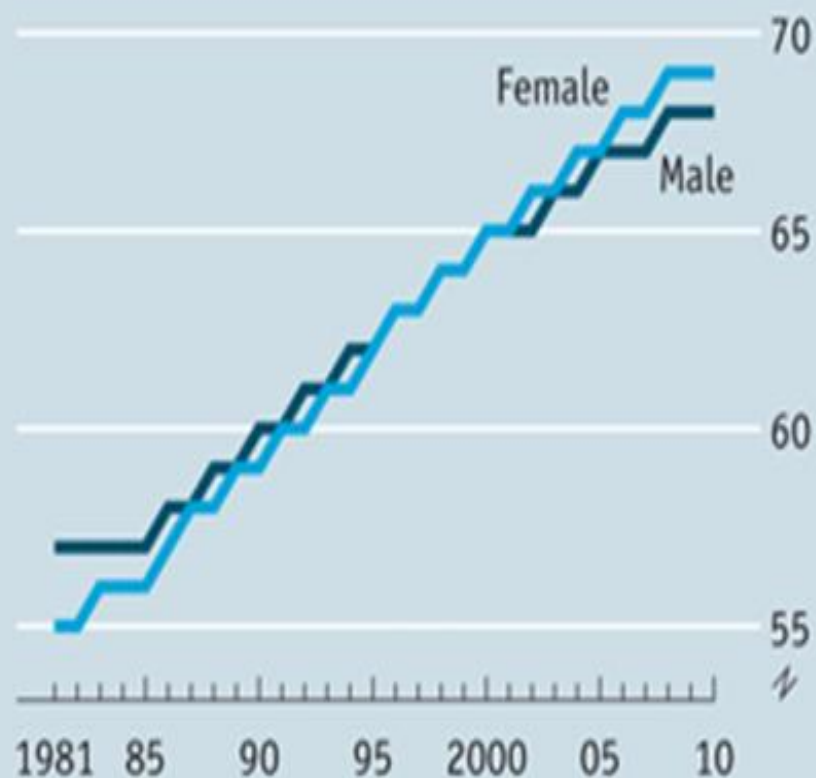


Economy: structural changes



Socio-economic Development

Life expectancy at birth, years



Source: World Bank

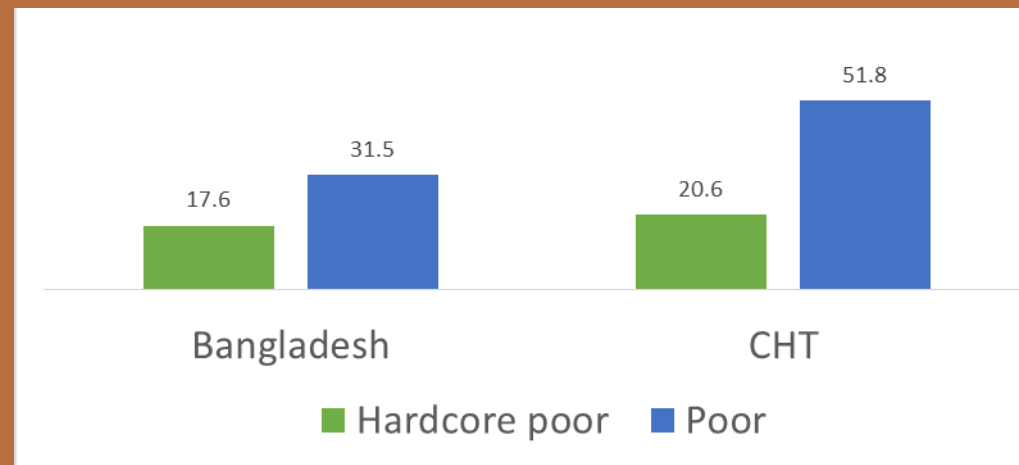
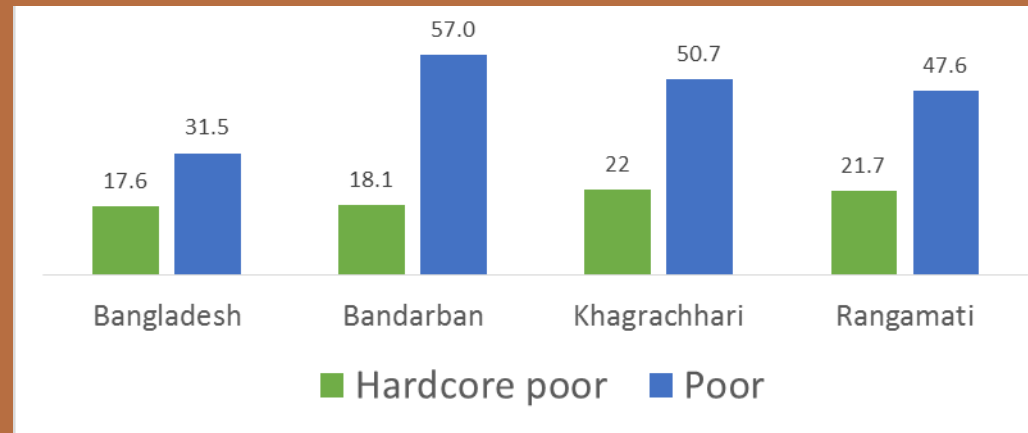
		Bangladesh	India	Pakistan
Income per person, \$PPP*	1990	540	874	1,200
	2011	1,909	3,663	2,786
Life expectancy at birth, years	1990	59	58	61
	2010	69	65	65
Infant (aged <1) deaths per 1,000 live births	1990	97	81	95
	2011	37	47	59
Child (aged <5) deaths per 1,000 live births	1990	139	114	122
	2011	46	61	72
Maternal deaths per 100,000 live births	1990	800	600	490
	2010	194†	200	260
Infant immunisation rate, %	1990	64	59	48
	2008	94	66	80
Female (aged 15-24) literacy rate, %	1991	38	49	na
	2009	77	74	61
Underweight children, % of total	1990	62	60	39
	2007	36†	44	31

Sources: World Bank; UNICEF; WHO; national statistics

*Purchasing-power parity †2011

CHT Lags Behind

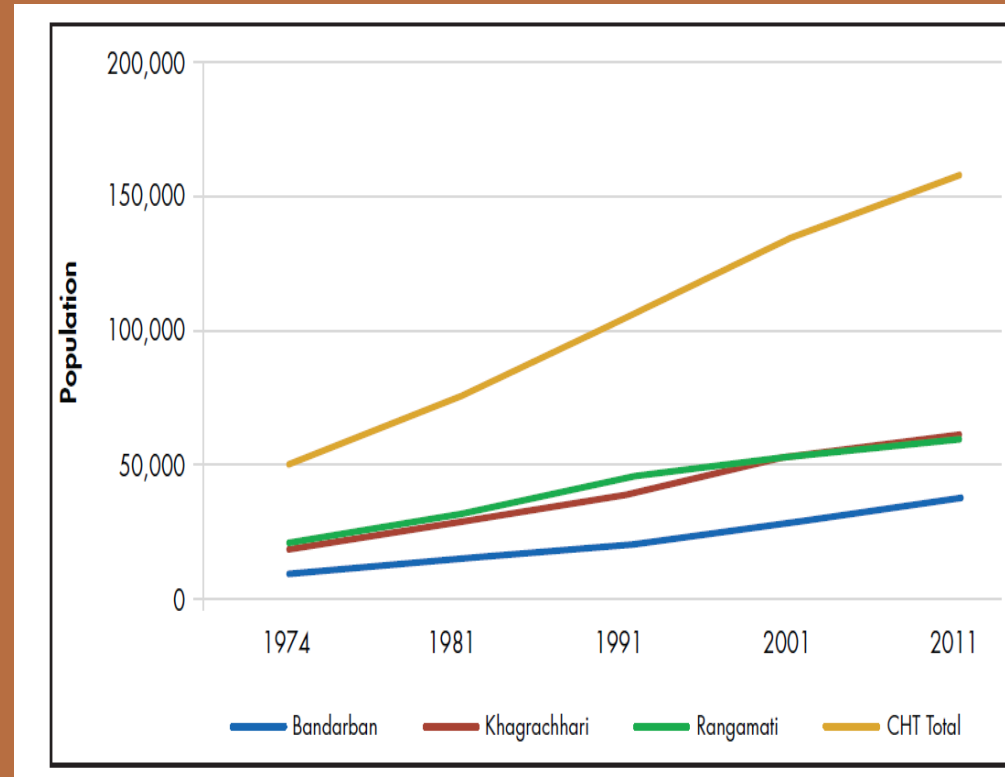
- Income & non-income poverty higher in CHT
- Livelihoods more susceptible & vulnerable



- Tribal inhabited area
- Strong local connections & cultural diversity
- Historically more disadvantaged
- Predominantly agrarian
- Topography: remoteness, inaccessibility, fragility
- Low human resource development – vocational & social skills

CHT Faces Particular Challenges

- 95% of land not suitable for intensive agriculture
- Low carrying capacity
- Massive population growth
- Resource conflicts
- Land grabbing – increasing landlessness
- Unsustainable use of land
- Degradation of natural resources, watersheds



Source: FAO 2013

CHT faces particular challenges

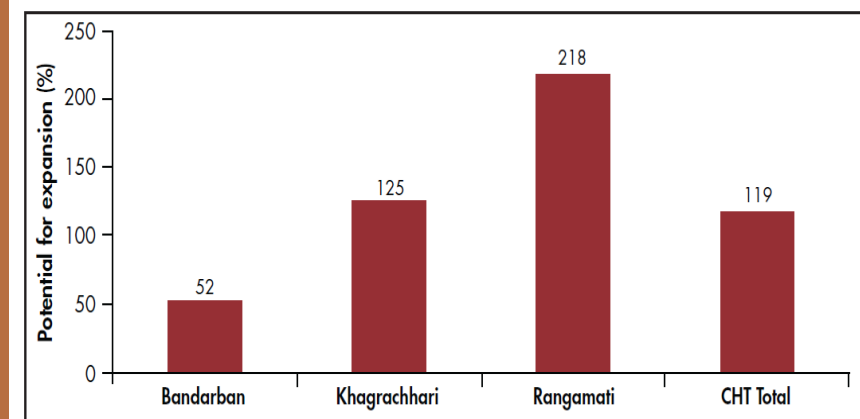
- Poor market access
- Poor physical & socio-economic infrastructure
- Limited non-farm employment opportunities
- High unemployment – 25%
- **Low livelihood diversification**
- **Low labour mobility**
- Low vocational & social skills

Income sources in rural mountain areas of Nepal, Western India & Pakistan

Mountain areas	% of HHs receiving remittances	Average annual remittances received
Nepal	55	80,436 (NRs)
Himachal Pradesh, India	25	71,852 (IRs)
Uttarakhand, India	21	55,327 (IRs)
KPK, Pakistan	16	N/A

Potential and Opportunities

- Rich in forest, biodiversity, NTFPs,
- Rich cultural diversity
- **Gateway to the East**
- Horticulture, agroforestry, farm-forestry, bamboo, rattan
- Organic products, medicinal plants, NTFPs, other niche products
- Agro-based micro-enterprises



Source: FAO 2013



Potential and Opportunities

- Non-farm sector
 - Tourism, cultural services, handicrafts, value chains
 - Kaptai lake
 - Increase labour mobility



Why CHT Needs Special Attention

- Govt of Bangladesh committed to create more inclusive & equitable society
- Faster & inclusive development critical for peace & stability
- CHT has special socio-cultural & geographic situation
- Specific needs & aspirations
- Requires differentiated approach & measures
- Making development inclusive & effective
- Bridging the gap between hills & plains
- Tap the locational potential of CHT – Gateway to the East

- Appropriate framework required for
 - Accelerated & Inclusive growth for Progress, Prosperity & Peace
 - Integrating ethnic communities into mainstream development while retaining their specific ethnic & cultural identity
- We propose a multi-pronged strategy

Framework for sustainable development in CHT



Area Specific Approaches for Development

	Access to Markets, Information & Institutional Services	
Agro-ecological potential & suitability	Good	Poor
High	<p>Areas with high potential and good access to markets and services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance support for high value cash crops • Establish fruit processing & storage facilities • Promote horticulture, intensive agriculture • Encourage private investment in irrigation, land management, processing, packaging 	<p>Areas with high potential but poor access to markets and services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve marketing facilities • Improve transportation facilities, ICT access, • Promote high-value, low volume crops • Increase productivity of subsistence food crops
Low	<p>Areas with low potential but good access to markets and services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote local products & services for markets • Promote conservation technologies & utilize local niches • Encourage agro-forestry, tree farming for timber, and NTFPs and medicinal plants • Develop trading centres 	<p>Areas with low potential and poor access to markets and services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide incentives for conservation & sustainable use of resources • Encourage & support labour mobility and non-farm activities. • Increase productivity of jhum & other subsistence agriculture with zero-tillage, mixed cropping, & livestock production • Promote eco-tourism and recreation where feasible • Develop and harness environmental services

Special Programmes Required for

- Strengthening market linkages & post-harvest management, value chain development, private sector engagement
- Promotion of non-farm employment & income generation activities including tourism
- Developing a master plan for tourism development & engagement of local communities
- Encouraging & supporting labour mobility – strengthening vocational & social skills, networks
- Improvement & transformation of jhum to more productive systems
- Accelerating agricultural growth, animal husbandry & integrated watershed management

Thank you

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FOR MOUNTAINS AND PEOPLE

