**Floating garden in Bangladesh: An innovative indigenous solution to combat climate change**

**“Floating garden”** a very simple, but smart solution has proved as a best climate change adaptive solution in flood prone and water logged geographical locations in the world. For ages, some say 300-400 years old, an innovative indigenous idea by an anonymous farmer/s, in South part of Bangladesh in tiny region of 25 square kilometres, covering Gopalganj, Barisal and Pirojpur districts, has been developed and carrying out to support the livelihoods of thousands families. After a century, the farmer’s innovation has been rightly recognized by FAO in December, 2015 as the global heritage in agriculture. **Quote** *"In the context of today's environmental and economic challenges and climate change, small-scale and family farmers, and especially traditional agriculture, can offer real solutions for food security, the conservation of natural resources and sustainable rural development, if adequate policies and investment are directed to them", said FAO Deputy Director-General Maria Helena Semedo.*

Since 2005, Practical Action Bangladesh has been testing with this idea to fit it in another geographical context, affected by flooding. The adoption and promotion of the technology has brought the scope in promoting sustainable agriculture for food production & supply for the extreme poor communities during flooding months in five NW districts in Bangladesh.

Practical Action’s focus on technology justice to ensure people living in poverty with access to science and technology, through securing access to knowledge and resources that, enable them to choose and use the technology they need to lead a life they value, providing it is sustainable.

The small, but beautiful innovative technological solution now is a means of living of poor and small householders farmers in some parts of Bangladesh where flood waters can remain for a prolonged period of time. This is a unique hydroponics system in which plants can be grown on the water on floating organic bed of water hyacinth, algae and other plant residues. This environmentally friendly traditional cultivation technique utilizes the natural resources of wetlands to grow vegetables and other crops almost all year round providing numerous social, economic, agricultural and ecological benefits to the local population.

For further details <http://practicalaction.org/media/preview/10558/lng:en>