

# 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