



Reducing Vulnerability: Turning Policy to Action

Bangladesh is ranked as the most climate vulnerable country in the world. It is at extreme risk of floods, tropical cyclones, sea level rise and drought which further challenges the achievements of its development goals.

The Government has been proactive in putting in place strategies and plans to address the impacts of climate change. But, like all LDCs, it faces resource and capacity constraints. CDKN is helping the Government to overcome these and turn policy into action. This involves not only implementation of the Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP) but also mainstreaming it within sectoral policies. CDKN is also supporting the vertical integration of the BCCSAP by linking with local partners and international frameworks.

Climate Change in Bangladesh

- Rising sea levels and other climate-driven changes could drive millions of people to migrate – (Stern Review, 2007)
- Climate change is expected to present increased risks to human health in Bangladesh, especially in light of the poor state of the country's public health infrastructure - (OECD, 2003)
- Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP) developed in 2009
- In June 2011, Government named co-chair of the Subsidiary Body Initiative (SBI) within the UNFCCC.



CDKN in Nepal

Budget Committed up to 2012 – approx £2 million

Key Partners: Ministry of Environment, Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS), International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED).

CDKN Projects Committed in Bangladesh

Loss and Damages Associated with the Adverse Effects of Climate Change – Support to the Government to develop a Work Programme to address Loss and Damages associated with climate change impacts, which will then be used as a model for other LDCs to replicate. Supplier – tbc, Budget - £1-1.5 million, Duration – 15 month, Start Date – November 2011.

Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) – Support to the Government as hosts of the 2011 CVF which brings together leaders of the most vulnerable countries to climate change. Supplier – DARA, Budget - £310,000, Duration – 2 months, Start Date – October 2011.

Adaptation Policy Options and Interventions for Climate Change Induced Displaced People – Research on the ground realities of climate change induced displacement and identification of policy gaps. Supplier – tbc, Budget – £150,000, Duration – 16 months, Start Date – November 2011

Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation for Community Based Adaptation – Developing a tool for effective participatory M&E of community based adaptation. Supplier – BCAS/IIED, Budget - £79,000, Duration – 12 months, Start Date – July 2011

National Diagnostics – Review of the current knowledge, capacity and policy priorities required to respond to climate change and development. Supplier – BCAS, Budget - £20,000, Duration – 7 months, Start Date – August 2010

Difference We Make

- Strengthening the Ministry of Environment's capacity to be an effective focal point for implementation of their Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP).
- Empowering the Government to mobilise other LDCs to take action on Loss and Damages by demonstrating a replicable model. Bangladesh is leading the world on this important issue.
- Providing policy-makers in key Ministries including Agriculture, DRR, Water and Land with accurate data on migration patterns and policy-recommendations.
- Creating a tool to allow policy-makers and partners to learn lessons from community based adaptation. This will facilitate coordination and collaboration among stakeholders in this sector and encourage greater transparency at the local level.
- Facilitating the Government's leadership role in the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) which will re-energise the forum and provide a powerful message to COP 17 on the need for urgent action on climate change.

'To combat the effects of natural disasters, CDKN is offering continuous technical support to the Government of Bangladesh in areas such as designing a Work Programme for Loss and Damage in the country and assisting in providing policy options for climate migrants - the biggest climate challenge for Bangladesh'

Mr. Mesbah ul Alam, Secretary in Charge, Ministry of Environment and Forests (Moef), Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh



CDKN's project partner, ARCAD, working with communities in Bangladesh on community based adaptation

Story of Change

CDKN is giving Bangladesh the opportunity to step forward and take the lead for LDCs on the Loss and Damage debate.

Little progress has been made on the Loss and Damage issue since it was first included on the UNFCCC agenda in 2008. As a result, a decision was made in Cancun in 2010 to establish a Work Programme in order to consider approaches to address Loss and Damage associated with climate change impacts in developing countries.

The Government of Bangladesh is taking the lead in the LDC group to increase collective understanding of the Loss and Damage issue and submit a Work Programme to the Subsidiary Body Initiative (SBI) of the UNFCCC. CDKN's 18-month, £1-1.5 million project will support them in these efforts through technical assistance and capacity building.

References

- Stern Review (2007) "The Economics of Climate Change"
- OECD (2003) "Development and Climate Change in Bangladesh"
- Government of Bangladesh (2009) "Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP)"
- UNDP (2007) "Risks, Vulnerability and Adaption in Bangladesh"

What is the Climate Development Knowledge Network?

CDKN is an alliance of six private and non-governmental organisations operating across four continents. The network provides support to decision makers in developing countries to design and deliver climate compatible development. We do this by combining research, advisory services and knowledge management, in support of locally owned and managed policy processes. We work in partnership with decision-makers in the public, private and non-governmental sectors.

For further information please visit our website www.cdkn.org or e-mail us at asia@cdkn.org

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