



### News from CDKN: Loss and Damage agenda promoted within Bangladesh

Bangladesh has eased its way into establishing itself on leading the Least Developed Country (LDC) group on the newly emerging issue on loss and damage. Under CDKN's *Loss and Damage in Vulnerable Countries Initiative*, the country is creating awareness, increasing the expert pool and developing a technical understanding. To this effect, several activities have already been carried out by the initiative. For example, case studies (one on Bangladesh) were released at the Doha COP18 and stimulated considerable dialogue to raise awareness by bringing the ground realities to the negotiating circles. Under the country component, the local consortium partner ICCAD has brought together local experts to prepare technical papers and share implications through a series of national level workshops. The outputs from the Bangladesh project, and an analysis of the Bangladesh experience, will provide rich experience around unpacking loss and damage technically at the national level.

### Highlights of Recent Impact

- CDKN is supporting Bangladesh to [play a leading role in the global debate on loss and damage](#). It is also promoting research and awareness-raising on the issue within Bangladesh.
- CDKN's project conducting [research on the ground realities of climate change-induced displacement](#) has yielded qualitative data which is already being used for policy advocacy.

### How we provide support in Bangladesh

Providing technical assistance and research which supports the Government of Bangladesh to develop and test effective tools and models on climate compatible development, and to advocate internationally for their replication and scale-up.

*Total budget committed to date: approximately GBP 2 million.*



### CDKN Partners in Bangladesh:



# Adaptation Policy Options and Interventions for Climate Change Induced Displaced People



## Story of Change

Under the Adaptation Policy Options project CDKN is supporting research into the on-ground realities of climate change induced displacement, and identification of policy gaps. The aim is to bring about the adoption of policies on climate related migration by key ministries such as Agriculture, Disaster Risk Reduction, Water and Land, and increased national capacity on migration and climate change. The project is being implemented by the University of Sussex, UK and the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU) of the University of Bangladesh. It entails the collection and analysis of both qualitative and quantitative data on the impact of climate change on human displacement, as well as a review of the existing policy framework and interventions underway. Sussex University provides the methodology for data collection and analysis, while RMMRU is responsible for actual implementation on-ground.

To date, RMMRU has gone into five districts to carry out field research. Qualitative data has been collected while collection of quantitative data is underway. The former includes behaviour and attitudes towards climate change threats, livelihood choices, migration destinations and networks, while the latter involves the collection of individual and household longitudinal data (migration histories) and community-level and environmental data on topics such as migration, employment, assets base and marital histories.

The field work is being conducted in five districts consisting of both origin and destination areas. Areas of origin are Munshiganj (prone to river bank erosion and floods), Chapai Nawabganj (prone to droughts) and Satkhira (prone to cyclones), while areas of destination are Dhaka and Khulna. The study has been extremely challenging as it involves remote areas with very little communication and accommodation facilities, and required gender balance in the research team and respondents. Conducting field work in the India-Bangladesh border areas was particularly risky as well as sensitive.

Initial findings show that the average duration of seasonal migration has increased from six months to nine months as availability of work decreased further due to climate change events. Affected people are using different types of migration as their coping strategy in the face of different climatic events. Migration can enhance the resilience of the affected population if it is used as one of the adaptation tools in future government and NGO interventions.

RMMRU has already started its ground work for policy advocacy based on the evidences of the qualitative data. To disseminate new knowledge on climate change and migration, it has made presentations in different workshops and seminars including the 'South-South Cooperation for Addressing Loss and Damage' meeting held in Dhaka in February 2013.

# Update on CDKN Projects in Bangladesh

## Adaptation policy options and interventions for climate induced displaced people of Bangladesh – Nov 2011 – June 2013

RMMRU, one of the implementing partners of the project, has collected qualitative data from five districts (three areas of origin, and two areas of destination for climate change induced migration); collection of quantitative data (drawing on 1,500 individual histories) is underway. Initial findings from the qualitative data are already being shared by RMMRU with policymakers and other stakeholders in various national and regional forums and workshops. RMMRU is planning its own workshop to share the qualitative data findings with government departments and ministries.



*"I would like to express my sincere thanks to all efforts you provided to enable us in loss and damage negotiation during the year, especially during the COP18. You have provided your expertise and time in helping this process ahead. I am aware that you all spend all the day and night with us during negotiation and provide useful advice to me when I got loss in my way how to negotiate. .... could you please accept my sincere thanks for all efforts you have done."*

**Delegate to COP18, provided with support under CDKN's Loss and Damage Vulnerable Countries Initiative**

## South Asia Climate Change Award Fellows Programme

Panos South Asia is about to start the second year of the CDKN supported South Asia Climate Change Award (SACCA) Fellowships. By enhancing journalists' capacity and editors' understanding, the project ultimately aims to improve coverage of climate change and so increase public awareness and debate on these issues.

The programme has set up an active online platform <http://climatechange.panossouthasia.org> which features around 110 stories from the fellows and has had more than 28,000 views.

Visit the CDKN and Panos websites for details of how print, television, radio and web journalists writing/reporting on climate change and environment issues from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka can apply for the 2013 fellowship.

The fellowships will support writing/reporting stories on climate change from the region. The fellows will also have the opportunity to participate in a training workshop and field trip that will link them with their peers from the neighbouring countries and understand climate-related issues from a South Asian perspective. 24 journalists participated in the fellows programme in 2012-13, and a further 24 are being sought for the second year.

## Loss and Damage in Vulnerable Countries Initiative – Nov 2011 – March 2013

Loss and Damage is increasingly becoming a key topic in global debate about climate change. Through CDKN's project, Bangladesh has been sharing its experience of loss and damage due to climate change and playing a leading role in bringing the issue on the global agenda. Following a very successful COP18 at Doha, the consortium partners implementing the project in Bangladesh are now focusing on the country component of the initiative. This entails preparation of technical papers and conduct of national workshops on loss and damage specifically within Bangladesh. All four workshops have now been held (the last was in February in Dhaka), and a number of technical papers have been prepared.

In this way it is hoped that a rolling momentum will be created to unlock the science behind the issue and that there are more opportunities for open dialogue, with all negotiating groups sharing viewpoints and jointly deciding the most suitable way forward.

## Empowering Communities to Monitor the Impact of their Work

By Saleemul Haq, ICCCAD, Independent University, Bangladesh

As climate change adaptation activities begin to proliferate across the world – from top down plans and programmes to bottom-up community based approaches – the arena of Community Based Adaptation (CBA) is gaining prominence. A fast growing community-of-practice meets annually at the International Conference on CBA; the seventh in the series is due to be held in Bangladesh from 18 to 25 April 2013.

A particularly interesting and innovative CBA programme is taking place in Bangladesh itself. Undertaken by a consortium of NGOs and research organisations, it engages with twenty communities across all the major natural and urban ecosystems found in Bangladesh. Called Action Research on Community Adaptation in Bangladesh (ARCAB), the two main innovative features of the programme are: i) it is being planned as a long-term action-research programme to run for the next three, four and even five decades; ii) even though it is being implemented in one country, it is designed as an international knowledge sharing programme.

The first stage of the programme has been to develop, in a consultative manner involving all the partners, a long, medium and short term monitoring and evaluation framework. The next phase, over the following year, entails baseline data collection to establish the “baseline year” situation, with interventions to follow from the year after. Each year Research Partners will continue to monitor results while Action Partners (NGOs) will carry out the interventions.

An interesting feature of the ARCAB Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for Community Based Adaptation (called “M+E4CBA”), is that it started with a traditional top-down, value-for-money, donor-perspective approach towards CBA, including cost benefit analysis of community based adaptation (“CBA of CBA”). However, it is now moving towards a more bottom-up approach of empowering communities to decide what is important for them and to do their own monitoring (including monitoring of the NGOs, researchers and indeed government). The latter approach represents much more of an “empowerment” than a value-for-money approach. The second interesting feature is that before the ARCAB M+E Framework was even completed it was exported to several countries in Africa, including Kenya, Ethiopia and Somaliland.

The ARCAB experience speaks to an interesting aspect of generating knowledge on adaptation to climate change around the world. As adaptation is a learning-by-doing enterprise, knowledge on successful adaptation practices has to be generated and transferred in real time; it cannot afford to wait for the traditional approach of relying on scientific peer reviewed papers alone. Thus ARCAB is developing new ways of co-generating knowledge by both practitioners as well as researchers.

For the full version of this article, visit [www.cdkn.org/regions/asia/](http://www.cdkn.org/regions/asia/)

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### What is the Climate and 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](http://www.cdkn.org) or e-mail us at [asia@cdkn.org](mailto:asia@cdkn.org)

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