



The official kick-off of the nationwide Climate Vulnerability Assessment (CVA) for Bangladesh took place on 22 November, 2016 at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel, Dhaka. This Assessment is being conducted by the Climate Finance Governance (CFG) Project, implemented by the Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) and its line agency, the Department of Environment (DoE), with technical assistance from the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. In close collaboration with the Government of Bangladesh, GIZ works on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

The inception workshop was very well attended by various ministries, academia and other stakeholders. Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed, Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF), was the Chief Guest; while Mr. Md. Nurul Karim, Project Director and Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) and Mr. Md. Raisul Alam Mondal, Director General, Department of Environment (DoE) attended the workshop as the Special Guests; and Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, Chairman-Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) participated in the event as Chairperson.

The proposed scope, objectives and approach of the Climate Vulnerability Assessment (CVA) was presented by the Climate Vulnerability Assessment team comprising of international and national experts. The follow-up discussion and inputs from the participants will be included in the future direction of the assessment. Most importantly, it was stressed and highlighted that this nationwide vulnerability assessment should build upon the existing assessments, which were focusing specifically on sectors or regions. Moreover, it was revealed during the discussions that the CVA will provide the Government of Bangladesh with a better understanding of where to invest in climate change adaptation measures and how to design projects to benefit the most vulnerable people in the country.

In the afternoon, the scoping workshop was conducted with an expert group who further detailed out the direction of the CVA through interactive discussions. The objective of the workshop was to further specify the goal and scope of the study and to identify the context and the way in which the project can be implemented. The MoEF and the DoE will closely work with the CVA team, to institutionalize this process within Government. The participants identified their strong preference for an integrated approach covering the key sectors impacted by climate change where gender will act as a cross-cutting aspect. The Assessment aims to provide a scientific basis by providing recommendations for adaptation options and developing an index for climate finance investments. The day was closed by Mr. Shamsur Rahman Khan, Deputy Chief and Deputy Project Director of the project who kindly thanked all the participants for their contribution.