Vulnerability of Bangladesh to the Impacts of Climate Change

Bangladesh is considered one of the most climate-vulnerable countries in the world. According to the Global Climate Risk Index 2021 published by Germanwatch, Bangladesh is ranked 7th among the countries affected most in 2000-2019 due to climate change. Though its contribution to global warming is negligible (less than 0.48% of global emissions), the country is impacted by all the adversities of climate change.

Sea Level Rise and Coastal Vulnerability

- Sea Level Rise (SLR) is the biggest threat for Bangladesh among all the external drivers.
- A recent study conducted by the Department of Environment on the projection of SLR using satellite altimetry data shows that the average sea-level rise in the coastal zone of Bangladesh is 3.8-5.8 mm/year over the last 30 years.
- The study illustrates that about 12.34%-17.95% of the coastal area will be submerged due to SLR by this century.
- The findings also show that SLR alone will be responsible for a 5.8%-9.1% decline in rice production in the country.

The Government of Bangladesh earnestly strives to shift the country’s vulnerability towards resilience under the able leadership of Hon’ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR), Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), and Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), along with other relevant ministries/divisions and respective agencies, are working hard to make the country climate resilient. Globally and nationally, enhanced adaptation measures will be required to reduce the adverse impacts of projected climate change and variability, regardless of the scale of mitigation undertaken over the next few decades.

Policy Response at National Level

Bangladesh has made commendable efforts to streamline regulatory and institutional settings in realizing the aspiration of climate-resilient sustainable development by creating required policies and regulatory frameworks. Over the years, the Government has formulated the following policies, plans, and programme to address climate change and disaster management:

- Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP), 2009 (updated in 2022)
- Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Act, 2010
- Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), 2015 (Enhanced & Updated in 2021)
- Bangladesh Delta Plan, 2100
- National Adaptation Plan (NAP), 2022
Bangladesh has made commendable efforts to streamline regulatory and institutional settings in policy response at national level. The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), and Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), along with other relevant Ministries, has been working on resilience under the able leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The Government of Bangladesh earnestly strives to shift the country's vulnerability towards the adversities of climate change.

Bangladesh is considered one of the most climate-vulnerable countries in the world. According to the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), 2022, Bangladesh has made significant progress towards mitigating the impacts of climate change. The country has implemented various initiatives to adapt to climate change, including the Bangladesh Delta Plan, 2100, Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Act, 2010, and the Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP), 2009.

The estimated cost for the implementation of 113 interventions, including 90 high-priority and 23 low-priority initiatives, is 3.8-5.8 mm/year over the last 30 years. The findings also show that SLR alone will be responsible for a 5.8%-9.1% decline in rice production, while sea-level rise (SLR) and coastal erosion combined are estimated to reduce rice production by 7.3%.

The Bangladesh Climate Change Trust (BCCT) has undertaken about 851 projects so far, with an investment of around 490 million US dollars. The BCCT has been pivotal in financing climate change adaptation and mitigation projects in Bangladesh.

The cumulative budget allocation of the most relevant twenty-five Ministries/Divisions accounts for 18% of the total budget. The Government has recently adopted the Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100, a comprehensive plan to address the impacts of climate change on the country's deltaic region.

The National Adaptation Plan (NAP) is a strategic document that outlines the country's adaptation priorities and strategies. The updated BCCSAP will consist of eleven thematic areas with newly included innovations and considerations.

Bangladesh has access to resources available from the Green Climate Fund (GCF), Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), Adaptation Fund (AF), and other bilateral and multilateral funds. However, the share of international financial resources is insignificant compared to our requirements.

Countries Fund (LDCF), Adaptation Fund (AF), and other bilateral and multilateral funds. However, the share of international financial resources is insignificant compared to our requirements. Bangladesh is among the first 4 countries to accept the 2nd commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol on 13 November 2013. Bangladesh is a founding member of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), a platform of the 55 most vulnerable countries. The development needs of the CVF countries also need to be acknowledged and addressed.

The Government has recently adopted the Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100, a comprehensive plan to address the impacts of climate change on the country's deltaic region. The plan includes measures to protect the delta from the effects of sea-level rise, salinity increase, river erosion, floods, and droughts.

The country has also adopted the Bangladesh Climate Change Fiscal Framework (CFF) in 2014, which has been updated in 2020. The framework aims to integrate climate change considerations into the national budget and fiscal policies.

The government has also taken steps to reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Bangladesh revised and submitted its updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) on 26 August 2021, enhancing both unconditional and conditional contributions with ambitious quantifiable mitigation targets.

Our updated, enhanced NDC has expanded its emission reduction coverage from only the energy sector to the whole economy of the country.

### Other Regulations on Environmental Protection:
- Air Pollution (Control) Rules, 2022
- Solid Waste Management Rules, 2021
- Bangladesh Biodiversity Conservation Act, 2015
- Ecologically Critical Area Management Rules, 2016
- Bangladesh Environment Conservation Act, 1995, (Updated in 2010)

### Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP)
- MoEFCC prepared Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP) in 2009, comprising six thematic areas, five focused on adaptation, while the sixth on mitigation.
- Recently, the Government has drafted a revised BCCSAP to update it with the changing circumstances. The updated BCCSAP will consist of eleven thematic areas with newly included natural resources management, gender and urban dimension of climate change.

### Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)
- Bangladesh revised and submitted Updated NDC on 26 August 2021, enhancing both unconditional and conditional contributions with ambitious quantifiable mitigation targets.
- Our updated, enhanced NDC has expanded its emission reduction coverage from only the energy sector to the whole economy of the country.

#### Unconditional Contribution (using own resources)
- Bangladesh will reduce its GHG emissions by 27.56MtCO₂e or 6.73% below BAU in 2030.

#### Conditional Contribution (with international support)
- Bangladesh will reduce additional emissions by 61.9 MtCO₂e or 15.12% below BAU in 2030.

#### Combined Total Contribution
- Bangladesh will reduce its GHG emissions by 89.47 MtCO₂e or 21.85% below BAU in 2030.
The Government has recently adopted the Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100, a comprehensive 100-year strategic plan aimed at gradual, sustainable development through an adaptive delta management process.

The plan targets to achieve a safe, climate-resilient, and prosperous delta with a mission to ensure long-term water and food security, economic growth, and environmental sustainability, effectively reducing vulnerability to natural disasters and building resilience to climate change.

**National Adaptation Plan (NAP)**

Currently, Bangladesh has formulated the Draft National Adaptation Plan (NAP), which will significantly enhance our adaptation ambition.

The Draft NAP primarily encompasses eight distinct sectors: water resources; disaster, social safety, and security; agriculture; fisheries, aquaculture, and livestock; urban areas; ecosystem, wetlands, and biodiversity; policy and institutions; capacity development, research, and innovation; and considers 11 climatic stress areas.

The estimated cost for the implementation of 113 interventions, including 90 high-priority and 23 moderate-priority under 8 (eight) thematic areas, is around US$ 230 billion for 2023-2050.

The NAP is expected to be the main strategic document under the UNFCCC process in the future to implement adaptation actions in developing countries.

**National Communication Reports to UNFCCC**

Bangladesh submitted First (Initial), Second and Third National Communication in 2002, 2012, and 2018 respectively. According to the Third National Communication of Bangladesh, submitted in 2018, per capita emission from all sectors was 0.98 tons CO₂-eq for the year 2012.

Bangladesh has initiated to prepare its First Biennial Update Report (BUR1) to the UNFCCC considering the GHG emission inventory for 2013-2019 and updating mitigation options.

**National Climate Finance Mechanism - Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund (BCCTF)**

Government of Bangladesh established Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund (BCCTF) in FY 2009-10 from its own resources, becoming a pioneer among developing countries.

The BCCT has undertaken about 851 projects so far, with an investment of around 490 million US dollars to implement strategic actions of the BCCSAP which mainly focus on adaptation, mitigation, and climate change research.

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**Initiatives**

**Adaptation Projects**
- 352.12 kilometers of embankments constructed
- 590.60 km of canals excavated/re-excavated
- 82 water controlling infrastructure constructed
- 14 schools cum cyclone shelter constructed
- 14,205 Volunteers and Coastal fisherman trained for Cyclone preparedness programme
- 19428 metric ton of stress tolerant seeds produced and distributed
- 8529 climate resilient house constructed
- 2451 water purification solar plant established
- 12900 floating vegetables bed in 210 villages
- 3 rubber dam built and 2 Spars reconstructed
- 90 km of river-bank protective works completed
- 18 regulators, 16 outlets and 12 inlets constructed
- 200.64 km road constructed
- 128.7 km drainage system developed
- 4184 no. Deep tube-wells installed

**Mitigation Projects**
- 71,146 million trees planted and 6921.7 hectare of forest land brought under afforestation
- 9,00,000 improved cook-stoves have been distributed and 8000 entrepreneurs built up
- 10,908 solar home systems distributed, and 2 solar mini-grid plants installed in the remote off-grid areas
- 1791 solar streetlight have been set up
- 2451 no. solar water purifier have been installed
- 13 solar irrigation pumps have been mounted
- 7901 biogas plants installed at Household level along with 13 Community biogas plants

**Research Projects**
- 12 stress and heat tolerant crops varieties introduced
- Management of forest using modern software, hardware and other equipment accomplished
Additional Climate Financing from National Budget

- Bangladesh adopted Climate Fiscal Framework (CFF) in 2014 (updated in 2020) to make climate inclusive Public Financial Management (PFM) system.
- The cumulative budget allocation of the most relevant twenty-five Ministries/Divisions accounts for 55.82% of the total national budget for FY2022-23. Besides, the climate-relevant budget allocation accounts for 8.07% of the total national budget for FY2022-23.
- Over the last eight years, the climate-relevant allocation has increased by two and a half times from TK 12,163 crore (about US$ 1.44 billion) in FY2015-16 to TK 30,531.98 crore (about US$ 3.08 billion) in FY2022-23.

International Support Received

- Bangladesh has access to resources available from Green Climate Fund (GCF), Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), Adaptation Fund (AF), and other bilateral and multilateral funds. However, international financial resources are insignificant compared to our requirements.
- Bangladesh has accessed climate finance (considering only national projects) from the following global funds:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SL.</th>
<th>Name of the Fund</th>
<th>No. of Approved Project</th>
<th>Amount of Fund (million $)</th>
<th>Grant</th>
<th>Loan</th>
<th>Co-finance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Green Climate Fund (GCF)*</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>101.14</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Adaptation Fund (AF)</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>9.99</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Global Environment Facility (GEF) **</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>24.66</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>402.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Climate Bridge Fund</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>200.20</strong></td>
<td>250.00</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>747.22</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Considering only national projects
**Considering projects under the climate change thematic area only

GHG Emission Reduction under Montreal Protocol

- Bangladesh has successfully implemented the required obligation under the Montreal Protocol.
- More than 2.14 MtCO2-e emissions will be reduced by 2025 as per Montreal Protocol targets.
- Bangladesh ratified the Kigali Amendment on 08 June 2020 and enacted an SRO to reduce the import and consumption of HFCs on 11 Feb 2021 with a view to HFC phasing-down (80%) by 2045.

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

- Bangladesh is pursuing a low-carbon development path with increasing emphasis on renewable energy and energy efficiency.
- Installed 708.17 MW capacity solar power plants, installation of an additional 1625.79 MW solar power plant and 149 MW Wind Power plant is in the process.
- Installed more than 6 million Solar Home Systems in off-grid areas and distributed 4.5 million Improved Cook Stoves in rural areas across the country.

![Solar Home System](Image 56x79 to 208x183)
![Agrivoltaic Solar Power Plant](Image 213x79 to 364x183)
![Solar Mini-Grid Plant](Image 370x79 to 521x183)
Globally and nationally, enhanced adaptation measures will be required to reduce the adverse effects of Agriculture (MoA), and Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), along with other relevant sectors to significantly enhance our adaptation ambition.

The Government of Bangladesh earnestly strives to shift the country’s vulnerability towards safety, and security; agriculture; fisheries, aquaculture, and livestock; urban areas; ecosystem, significantly enhance our adaptation ambition.

Bangladesh is considered one of the most climate-vulnerable countries in the world. According to the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), 2022 Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP), 2009 (updated in 2022)

• The study illustrates that about 12.34%-17.95% of the coastal area will be submerged due to SLR by this century.
• A recent study conducted by the Department of Environment on the projection of SLR using satellite altimetry data shows that the average sea-level rise in the coastal zone of Bangladesh will be 29 cm by 2050 and 52 cm by 2100.
• The cumulative budget allocation of the most relevant twenty-five Ministries/Divisions accounts for 55.82% of the total national budget for FY2022-23. Besides, the climate-relevant budget has increased to 6,200 Cyclone Shelters have been constructed across the coast, and 320 Flood Shelters have been constructed across the country, with additional 393 Flood Shelters under construction. 9,10, BINA masur 8,10 and BARI Hybrid Maize 12,13(drought tolerant).

Adaptation Measures in Agriculture

• Government of Bangladesh has undertaken research on the development of drought, cold, waterlog, diseases, pest and salt tolerant crop varieties to cope with the changing climate.
• Early harvest short duration rice varieties: BRRI dhan 62 (100 days), 66, 71 (113 days); BINA dhan 7, 11, 16, 17, 19-22 (100-120 days); traditional varieties require 140-150 days.
• Drought tolerant early varieties: BRRI dhan 42, 43 (100 days), 57 (100-105 days), 66 and 71 (also short duration); BINA dhan-17, 19, 21.
• Salt tolerant rice varieties: BRRI dhan 23, 40, 41, 55, 67, 73 (8 ds/m); BRRI dhan 53, 54, 61, (6 ds/m); BRRI dhan 47 (8-12 ds/m), 97(8-14 ds/m), 99 (8-10 ds/m); BINA dhan8, 10,23.
• Flooding tolerant varieties: BRRI dhan51, BRRI dhan52, BRRI dhan79; BINA dhan 11, 12, 23.
• Stress tolerant other crop varieties: BARI Gom 22, 23, 24 (heat tolerant); BARI Gom 25, 26, 30, 31 (early maturing heat tolerant); BINA Gom 1 & BARI Hybrid Maize 16 (salt tolerant); BINA mung-8, 9, 10, BINA masur 8, 10 and BARI Hybrid Maize 12, 13(drought tolerant).

Floating Agriculture in Bangladesh

• Floating bed to grow vegetables and spices or seedlings in the wetlands of the south-central coastal districts utilizing locally available water hyacinth and other aquatic weeds. The land underneath is used for the production offish in the open water and crops on the floating bed.

Disaster Management in Bangladesh

• Bangladesh has become a role model and demonstrated immense success in Disaster Management and Disaster Risk Reduction, which is well recognized globally.
• Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP), established in 1973 by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, has 76,140 volunteers (of which around 50% are women) for DRR. Additionally, 46,000 urban volunteers are also working for urban safety and resilience. 4,200 Cyclone Shelters have been constructed across the coast, and 320 Flood Shelters have been constructed across the country, with additional 393 Flood Shelters under construction. 550 Mujib Killa, specially designed raised land, have been constructed to provide shelter for the people and livestock in coastal regions during the cyclone/tidal surge.
• 60 Multipurpose Rescue Boats have been built for persons with disability.
• A total of 66 Disaster Relief Warehouse- cum-Disaster Information Centerswere established.
• 18 community radio (FM) network has been established for the coastal people and fishermen.
• Interactive Voice Response (IVR) provides weather and early warning for anticipatory action in reducing loss and damage.

Rehabilitation of Climate-Displaced People

• Bangladesh has taken “Khurushkul Ashrayan Prokalpa” the world’s biggest housing project for climate refugees in Cox’s Bazar to construct 139 five-storey buildings with modern facilities to shelter 4,409 climate refugee families.
Recent Landmark Initiatives

- Under the "Ashrayan" project, a landmark initiative of the government for the landless and homeless people, a total of 442,608 families have been given houses. Besides enhancing disaster resilience, the project also focuses on mitigation by implementing 1.5 million tree plantations, rainwater harvesting, solar home systems and improved cook stoves.
- To enhance climate resilience and DRR, the government has implemented 726 km river-bank protection, 2,123 km river excavation and dredging, 1,266 km embankment, excavation/re-excavation of 181 km irrigation canal, and 499 km drainage canal in the last 10 years.
- The government has planted 5.4 million Palm trees to reduce the risk of death due to lightning.

Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) and Afforestation

- Bangladesh has developed its forestry sector capacity to engage in mitigation co-benefit process manifested by estimating baseline emissions, preparing monitoring systems and adopting National REDD+Strategy for reducing emissions and enhancing forest carbon stocks.
- The baseline emission is 1.18 Mt tons of CO2-eq per year from 2000 to 2015. To arrest this trend, the National REDD+Strategy targets to restore all degraded forest and afforest all newly accreted coastal lands, increasing tree cover from the current 22% to 25% by 2030.
- Bangladesh completed its first National Forest & Tree Inventory in 2019 and assessed 1275.54 million tons of Carbon (all five carbon pools, soil up to 30 cm).
- To commemorate the birth centenary of the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the Government planted 10 million trees in 2020.

Role at International Level

- **Kyoto Protocol**: Bangladesh is among the first 4 countries to accept the 2nd commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol on 13 November 2013.
- **Paris Agreement**: Bangladesh signed the Paris Agreement on the first day of opening for signature on 22 April 2016 and ratified on 21 September 2016.
- **Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF)**: Bangladesh is a founding member of CVF, a platform of the 55 most climate-vulnerable countries. During Bangladesh’s 2nd tenure (May 2020 – June 2022) as the chair of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), has initiated the “Climate Prosperity Plan,” with the vision of achieving energy independence (maximizing its share of renewable energy & energy efficient technologies) and setting trajectory from one of vulnerability to resilience to prosperity (VRP).
• Membership in UNFCCC Bodies:
  - Member of the Technology Executive Committee
  - Alternate Member of CDM Executive Board
  - Alternate Member of the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee (JISC)
  - Member of Compliance Committee referred to Article 15.2 of Paris Agreement - PAICC.

Leadership of Hon’ble Prime Minister in international Climate Diplomacy

Statement by Hon’ble Prime Minister at COP26

Hon’ble Prime Minister emphasizes four points at the 26th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP26) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on 01 November 2021, Glasgow, UK.

• The major emitters must submit ambitious NDCs and implement those.
• Developed countries should fulfill their commitments of providing 100 billion dollars annually with a 50:50 balance between adaptation & mitigation.
• The developed countries should disseminate clean and green technology at affordable costs to the most vulnerable countries. The development needs of the CVF countries also need to be considered.
• The issue of loss & damage must be addressed, including global sharing of responsibility for climate migrants displaced by sea-level rise, salinity increase, river erosion, floods, and droughts.

GCA Regional Center for South Asia

• In recognition of the country’s progressive role in addressing climate change, the Global Commission on Adaptation established a Regional Global Centre on Adaptation (GCA) for South Asia in Bangladesh.
• Hon’ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh, H.E. Sheikh Hasina, and the Chair of the GCA Supervisory Board, and 8th UN Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki-moon, jointly inaugurated the GCA regional office at the Department of Environment in Dhaka on 8 September 2020.
• The center will exchange knowledge, experience, and best practices on adaptation among 8 (eight) South Asian Countries and support their efforts to accelerate climate adaptation.