
JOINT CIVIL SOCIETY SUBMISSION ON BANGLADESH FOR THE 4TH CYCLE OF THE UPR REVIEW

CLIMATE CHANGE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

act:onaid



Center for Participatory
Research & Development
CPRD

CONCERN
worldwide



People
Change
the World
Diakonia



NETZ
বাংলাদেশ

Practical
ACTION



WaterAid

Situation in **BANGLADESH**

CLIMATE CHANGE and HUMAN RIGHTS

RECOMMENDATIONS

*Accepted in the
Previous Cycle*

Viet Nam: Continue efforts in addressing the negative impacts of climate change

Gabon: Develop strategies to mitigate the impact of climate change

IMPLEMENTATION

of Recommendations

Formulation of **Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan (MCP)**

- Aimed at gender-responsive, high degrees of resilience to counteract internal migration with operationalizing systematic financing to minimize and avert L&Ds through **Mujib Locally Led Adaptation Hubs**
- Increasing **protection and resilience of women** from climatic shocks and climate-related crises
- Supporting housing initiatives like “Ashrayan” to rehabilitate displaced and landless people

Situation in **BANGLADESH**

CLIMATE CHANGE and HUMAN RIGHTS

IMPLEMENTATION *of Recommendations*

Formulation of National Adaptation Plan (NAP) following a country-driven, participatory, gender-responsive and inclusive process to enhance climate resilience, **establish justice and safeguard human rights**

Increased **emission reduction targets** in the revised NDC in 2021; developed a Roadmap and Action Plan for implementing NDC up to 2041

Updating **Bangladesh's own holistic strategy** 'Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP) in 2021

Updating **Climate Change and Gender Action Plan (ccGAP) in 2022**

Decision to **scrap 10 coal-based power plants** in 2021 to align with mitigation targets

Situation in **BANGLADESH**

CLIMATE CHANGE and HUMAN RIGHTS

**GAPS in
IMPLEMENTATION**
*e.g. Partial
Implementation*



Though a good progress in developing plans and strategies, but their implementation **has not been in a right manner**

Implementation is largely risk-centric and technology focused, hence **not addressing social-economic and cultural dimension** of climate change impacts

Delay in implementation, lack of capacity of the duty bearers, **and mal-practices on the ground** are marring some well-intended plans, schemes and strategies

Negative impacts of climate change remain the root cause that are forcing people **to compromise their fundamental human rights**

Situation in **BANGLADESH**

CLIMATE CHANGE and HUMAN RIGHTS

NEW DEVELOPMENT

*Issues related
to* **RIGHT TO
LIFE and
LIVING
STANDARD**

No significant change in terms of **loss of lives, damages of assets**, properties since the last cycle of UPR

Cyclone Sitrang in 2022 caused **death of 24 people**, and it's residual impacts still been **forcing people to be migrated**

Death toll by lightning **rose from 250 people in 2021 to 362 in 2022**

The secondary impacts of climate change on water and health have increased **deaths from malaria, dengue fever, dysentery** and other water-borne diseases

Salinity intrusion made coastal lands unsuitable for cultivation, thereby causing decreased **crop yields and increased unemployment and migration**

Riverbank erosion has been a major reason **of displacement from ancestral home** in Shariatpur district,

Situation in **BANGLADESH**

CLIMATE CHANGE and HUMAN RIGHTS

NEW DEVELOPMENT

Issues related to HOUSING

Extreme and repetitive climate events are persistently causing involuntary migration from the coastal and river basin areas, **often they are referred as 'climate migrants'**.

Escaping from the Climate Vulnerabilities, the climate migrants **become exposed to more vulnerable condition** in the urban slum and squatters, which is a direct denial of their right to adequate housing

Yet, there is no specific measures to provide support to the climate migrants; hence **number of floating people are in increase in the urban areas**

Temporary migration has become a very frequent coping strategy for many households in the southwest coastal belt (Khulna and Bagerhat)

Climate migrants in the urban slums in Barisal are **deprived from adequate accommodation and living environment**

Situation in **BANGLADESH** CLIMATE CHANGE and HUMAN RIGHTS

NEW DEVELOPMENT

Issues related to **WATER SECURITY**

Different climate-induced events have seriously impacted water security in the **south-western coastal areas**.

Salinity intrusion has **deprived 95% households in Garuikhali and Kumkhali village in Paikgachha, Khulna** of access to fresh drinking water.

Access to **fresh drinking water** is further shrunken by restricted mobility as a result of inundation due to high intensity short term rainfall.

Situation in **BANGLADESH**

CLIMATE CHANGE and HUMAN RIGHTS

NEW DEVELOPMENT

Issues related to **HEALTH SECURITY**

Women and children in the Southwest Coastal Belt of Bangladesh have been suffering numerous health problems including **skin ailments, high blood pressure, pre-eclampsia** that are directly associated with climate change

High exposure to excessive water salinity has had a direct impact on **women's reproductive health** issues

Due to increased average temperature **heat stroke is on rise in the North-west** part of the country

Due to **economic hardship**, disaster affected people are bound to refrain from taking any formal medical treatment even in the severe cases like pregnancy

Climatic hazards have also harmed **mental health of the climate victims**

Situation in **BANGLADESH**

CLIMATE CHANGE and HUMAN RIGHTS

NEW DEVELOPMENT

Issues related to WOMEN & CHILDREN

Women do not get **sufficient space** in the emergency shelters

Adolescents girls of climate migrant families in urban slums face **threat and risk of sexual harassment** and are **married off as a means of risk transfer**

Female climate migrants face economic challenge and limited availability of **dignified jobs**; they also suffer lack of access to **basic medical facilities**

In Shyamnagar Upazila of Satkhira district, children in half of the climate victim families have experienced **dropout from school before completing secondary level** of schooling due to disaster-driven poverty

Mainstream educational institutions often don't admit the students with study gaps, eventually leading to their **permanent drop-out from school, increase of child labor and child marriage**

Child Marriage: Transferring risk **through Risking life**

GIRL CHILD
perceived as a family
BURDEN and **RISK**



People, particularly in the
disaster prone areas,
consider Child Marriage as
an option of **Transferring**
RISK

..... “no man shows any interest in
marrying a girl whose family has
lost everything.....

...as said by a river eroded family

Situation in **BANGLADESH** CLIMATE CHANGE and HUMAN RIGHTS

NEW DEVELOPMENT

Issues related to **SOCIAL SECURITY**



In Bangabandhu Colony, Barisal, the “migrant” identity has made it difficult for many climate migrants **to access social safety net schemes, e.g., old age, pregnancy and disability allowances**

Having no access to social safety net, the fisherman community in the Bagerhat and Satkhira are forced to **take loan at high interest rates of 20 to 96 percent**, thereby being pushed into the **vicious cycle of extreme poverty**

Situation in **BANGLADESH**

CLIMATE CHANGE and HUMAN RIGHTS

NEW DEVELOPMENT

*Issues related
to* **LOSS &
DAMAGE**



Climate-afflicted people are **losing their properties including land, houses, standing crops and all belongings** due to the recurrence of cyclones, storm surges, riverbank erosion, flood etc. in different climate hotspots of the country

Climate victims have suffered **loss of cultural traits because of forced displacement** and loss of traditional spaces of cultural festivities

Situation in **BANGLADESH**

CLIMATE CHANGE and HUMAN RIGHTS

RECOMMENDATIONS

*to the government of
BANGLADESH*

Addressing climate change impacts under **Human Rights Obligations**;

Establishing collaboration with other states for a **push for human rights-based response to addressing climate change**

Building strong and **sustainable infrastructures and shelters to protect life and properties** of the vulnerable communities from the extreme events

Recognize climate-induced migration, **monitor the flow of climate-induced migrants** at the origin and destination,

Countrywide mapping of climate migrants and develop national database; ensure housing, land, and property for the climate migrants

Create sustainable alternative employment for the displaced people through **introducing skill-based employment programs** in the climate-vulnerable areas

Situation in **BANGLADESH**

CLIMATE CHANGE and HUMAN RIGHTS

RECOMMENDATIONS

to the government of BANGLADESH



Ensure **transparency and accountability in social safety net** program; scale up benefits in quantity and coverage to ensure rights of the climate victims.

Ensure **availability of safe drinking water** for the salinity affected coastal people with massive desalinization plants, rainwater harvesting systems, and restoration and management of common water bodies

Ensure access to **employment opportunities and to health facilities** for the women climate migrants

Provide **special financial support for educational expenses to the children of the disaster-torn families** and ensure their admission in education at any time of the year, even if there is a significant study gap

Thank YOU

act:onaid



Center for Participatory
Research & Development
CPRD

CONCERN
worldwide



People
Change
the World
Diakonia



Practical
ACTION

