

The Road to Dubai: Expert Consultation on Thematic Programs of COP 28

Event Proceedings



COP28 UAE

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Edited By:

Dr. S M Munjurul Hannan Khan, Executive Director, NACOM
Mr. Hasib Us Shahid Shohan, Assistant Program Officer, NACOM

Prepared By:

Ms. Roufa Khanum, Assistant Director, C3ER, BRAC University
Ms. Sharmin Nahar Nipa, Coordinator, C3ER, BRAC University
Ms. Shumayta Marzia, Research Assistant, C3ER, BRAC University
Mr. Touhidul Islam, Program Officer, NACOM
Ms. Myisha Noshin, Research Associate, NACOM
Ms. Nishat Tasnim Faria, Trainee Officer, NACOM

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Acknowledgments

"The Road to Dubai: Expert Consultation on Thematic Programs of COP28" was held on November 15, 2023, at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm in a hybrid format. This Expert Consultation was organized in collaboration with esteemed partner organizations and experts from various sectors including NACOM, C3ER, Action Aid, ICCCAD, Prokriti O Jibon Foundation, Arannayk Foundation, LEDARS, CODEC, CAPS, Change Initiative, AOSED, CDD, Youth Net GLOBAL, ECO NETWORK, and UNDP Bangladesh

NACOM and C3ER prepared the consultation proceedings under the overall guidance and supervision of Dr. S M Munjurul Hannan Khan, Executive Director (NACOM).

Our sincere thanks to the Honorable Minister of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, UNDP Country Representative, Dr. Qazi Kholiqzaman Ahmed, and Prof. Dr. Ainun Nishat for their invaluable contributions. We express deep gratitude to all experts for dedicating their time and effort to enriching the consultation and writeup for proceedings.

Beside these, we extend our appreciation to the following experts for sharing their insights during the event: Mr. Zakir Hussain Khan, Chief Executive, Change Initiative; Dr. M Asaduzzaman, former Director Research and Professional Fellow, BIDS; Dr. Hasib Irfanullah, Visiting Research Fellow, CSD, ULAB; Mr. M Hafizul Islam Khan, Executive Director, CCJ-B; Ms. Farah Kabir, Country Director, ActionAid Bangladesh; Dr. Md Iqbal Kabir, Professor, CCHPU, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; Mr. Arif M Faisal, Program Specialist, Nature, Climate and Energy, UNDP Bangladesh; Mrs. Shamim Arfin, Executive Director, AOSED; Dr. AKM Saiful Islam, Professor, BUET; Mr. Sohanur Rahman, Executive Coordinator, YouthNet for Climate Justice; Dr. Fazle Rabbi Siddique Ahmed, Deputy Managing Director, PKSf; Professor Kamruzzaman Ahmed Majumder,

Director, CAPS, Stamford University; Mohan Kumar Mondal, Executive Director, LEDARS; Syed Sabbir Hasan, Advocacy and Documentation Officer, CDD; and Mrinal Kanti Tripura, Director, Malaya Foundation and Observer, UNFCCC-COP. Their participation and insightful contributions greatly enriched our discussions and added immense value to the event.

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Abbreviations

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| BCCT | Bangladesh Climate Change Trust |
| COP | Conference of the Parties |
| EU | European Union |
| FIF | Financially Integrated Fund |
| GCF | Global Climate Fund |
| GEF | Global Environment Facility |
| GHG | Greenhouse Gase |
| IPCC | Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change |
| LDC | Least Developed Countries |
| MoEFCC | Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change |
| NAP | National Adaptation Plan |
| NDC | Nationally Determined Contributions |



Introduction

Climate Change is the prime concern for the adverse impact and long-term adaptations need to be integrated nowadays in different countries, including Bangladesh. Developed nations emit more greenhouse gases that harm the environment, accelerating negative impacts on developing and least developed countries. Understanding the context and addressing the emergence in our national goals to combat climate change and our overall challenges, the event "The Road to Dubai: Expert Consultation on Thematic Programs of COP28" was organized on November 15, 2023, at a Hotel in Dhaka. This Expert Consultation was organized in collaboration with esteemed partner organizations including Nature Conservation Management (NACOM), Center For Climate Change and Environmental Research (C3ER), UNDP Bangladesh, Action Aid Bangladesh, ECO NETWORK, Youth Net for Climate Justice, Change Initiative, Center for Disability in Development (CDD), Arannayk Foundation, Prokriti O Jibon Foundation, Local Environment Development and Agricultural Research Society (LEDARS), Center for Atmospheric Pollution Studies, An Organization for Socio-Economic Development (AOSED), CODEC, International Center for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD). They organized the event profoundly and focused on the core thematic issues regarding Adaptation, Climate Finances, Loss and Damage, Technology Transfer, Capacity Building, Mitigation, Accountability, Nature and Land Use, Women, Youth, Disability and Indigenous Community with principles and processes for the upcoming COP 28. Honourable Minister Mr. Md. Shahab Uddin (MP), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change graced the event as the chief guest and Mr. Stephen Liller, UNDP Resident Representative Bangladesh joined as the special guest. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmed, Economist and Climate Change Expert and Chairman, Dhaka School of

The speakers were: Mr. Zakir Hussain Khan, Chief Executive, Change Initiative; Dr. M Asaduzzaman, former Director Research and Professional Fellow, BIDS; Dr. Hasib Irfanullah, Visiting Research Fellow, CSD, ULAB; Mr. M Hafizul Islam Khan, Executive Director, CCJ-B; Ms. Farah Kabir, Country Director, ActionAid Bangladesh; Dr. Md Iqbal Kabir, Professor, CCHPU, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; Mr. Arif M Faisal, Program Specialist, Nature, Climate and Energy, UNDP Bangladesh; Mr. Shamim Arfin, Executive Director, AOSED; Dr. AKM Saiful Islam, Professor, BUET; Mr. Sohanur Rahman, Executive Coordinator, YouthNet for Climate Justice; Dr. Fazle Rabbi Siddique Ahmed, Deputy Managing Director, PKSF; Professor Kamruzzaman Ahmed Majumder, Director, CAPS, Stamford University; Mr. Mohan Kumar Mondal, Executive Director, LEDARS, Syed Sabbir Hasan, Advocacy and Documentation Officer, CDD; and Mr. Mrinal Kanti Tripura, Director, Malaya Foundation and Observer, UNFCCC-COP.

Prof. Dr. Ainun Nishat, Professor Emeritus and Advisor, C3ER, BRAC University facilitated the open discussion and emphasized the need to be proactive in safeguarding our participation and interests in the upcoming COP28 global negotiations. Chair of the event Dr. Kazi Khalikuzzaman Ahmed, Economist and Climate Change Expert and Chairman, Dhaka School of Economics summarized the important issues discussed in the meeting. At the end, Ms. Roufa Khanum, Assistant Director, C3ER, BRAC University concluded the discussion by expressing a vote of thanks.

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Conference Program

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| Inaugural Session | |
| 9:00 am - 9:30 am | Registration and Tea/Coffee |
| 9:30 am - 9:31 am | Condolences for Prof. Dr. Saleemul Huq |
| 9:31 am - 9:35 am | Welcome Address Mr. Muqeed Majumdar Babu, Chairman, PoJF |
| 9:35 am - 10:00 am | Keynote Presentation Dr. S.M. Munjurul Hannan Khan, Executive Director, NACOM |
| 10:00 am - 10:10 am | Speech of the Special Guest Mr. Stefan Liller, UNDP, Resident Representative |
| 10:10 am - 10:20 am | Speech of the Chief Guest Mr. Md. Shahab Uddin M.P., Honorable Minister, Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC) |
| 10:20 am - 10:30 am | Speech of the Chair Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, Economist and Climate Change Expert; Chairman, Dhaka School of Economics |
| Technical Session | |
| 11:00 am - 11:05 am | Finance and Trade Mr. Zakir Hossain Khan, Chief Executive, Change Initiative |
| 11:05 am - 11:10 am | Food and Agriculture Dr. M Asaduzzaman, Former Research Director and Professional Fellow, BIDS |
| 11:10 am - 11:15 am | Nature and Land-use Dr. Haseeb Irfanullah, Visiting Research Fellow, CSD, ULAB |
| 11:15 am - 11:20 am | Loss and Damage Adv. M. Hafijul Islam Khan, Executive Director, CCJ-B |
| 11:20 am - 11:25 am | Gender equality Ms. Farah Kabir, Country Director, ActionAid Bangladesh |
| 11:25 am - 11:30 am | Health Dr. Md Iqbal Kabir, Professor, CCHPU, MoHFW |

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|----------------------------|--|
| 11:30 am- 11:35 am | Energy Transition Mr. Arif M. Faisal, Program Specialist Nature, Climate & Energy, UNDP Bangladesh |
| 11:35 am- 11:40 am | Education Skills and Capacity Building Mr. Shamim Arfeen, Executive Director, AOSED |
| 11:40 am- 11:45 am | Water Resource Dr A K M Saiful Islam, Professor, IWFM, BUET |
| 11:45 am- 11:50 pm | Youth and Children Mr. Sohanur Rahman, Executive Coordinator, YouthNet for Climate Justice |
| 11:50 pm-11:57 pm | Accountability Dr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed, DMD, PKSF |
| 11:57 pm-12:05 pm | Urbanization and Built Environment Prof. Kamruzzaman Ahmed Majumder, Director, CAPS, Stamford University |
| 12:05 pm-12:10 pm | Locally Led Adaptation Mr. Mohon Kumar Mondal, Executive Director, LEDARS |
| 12:10 pm-12:15 pm | Disability Mr. Syed Sabbir Hasan, Advocacy and Documentation Officer, Centre for Disability in Development |
| 12:15 pm - 12:20 pm | Indigenous Community Mr. Mrinal Kanti Tripura, Director, Maleya Foundation & Observer, UNFCCC-COP |
| 12:20 pm- 01:20 pm | Open Discussion Facilitated By Prof. Dr. Ainun Nishat, Professor Emeritus, BRAC University |
| 01:20 pm - 01:30 pm | Summary of Technical Session by Chair Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, Economist and Climate Change Expert; Chairman, Dhaka School of Economics |
| 01:30 pm- 01:35 pm | Vote of Thanks Ms. Roufa Khanum, Assistant Director, C3ER, BRAC University |
| 01:35 pm | Closing and Lunch |

Opening Session- Setting the Stage

Opening Remarks by Mr. Muqeed Majumdar Babu, Chairman, Prokriti O Jibon Foundation (POJF)

Mr. Mukit Majumdar Babu, Chairman of the Prokriti O Jibon Foundation, delivered a welcome speech at the event titled "The Road to Dubai: Expert Consultation on Thematic Programs of COP28." He began by expressing gratitude and paying respect to the late Professor Saleemul Huq. Mr. Babu acknowledged the presence of participants who contribute to various aspects of nature, environment, and related issues.



Opening Remarks: Mr. Mukit Majumdar Babu, Chairman, POJF, delivering his opening remarks.

He highlighted the significance of the gathering, emphasizing the collaborative efforts in preparation for the upcoming COP28 conference. Mr. Babu noted the presence of key figures, including the Honorable Minister (MoEFCC) Mr. Md. Shahab Uddin, Dr. Kazi Khalikuzzaman Ahmed, and others who have played important roles in COP activities over the years. He encouraged participants to focus on presenting important issues and proposing effective solutions for the betterment of the country. As the event aimed to discuss thematic programs for COP28, Mr. Babu underscored the importance of addressing intense issues from different organizations and themes, anticipating successful outcomes at COP28. He described the "The Road to Dubai" event as a platform for experts, policymakers, and stakeholders to gather, share insights, and engage in meaningful discussions to define their participation in COP28.

Mr. Babu acknowledged the complexity of the challenges associated with climate change and expressed confidence that collective efforts could overcome them. He portrayed "The Road to Dubai" not only as a physical journey but also a collective effort to pave the way for sustainable resilience. The Chairman extended sincere gratitude to all the speakers, panellists, and attendees, recognizing their invaluable expertise and contributions that would have a lasting impact on the success of COP28. Mr. Babu warmly welcomed all participants, expressing hope for a successful discussion and collective efforts to pave the way for a sustainable and resilient world.

Keynote Presentation by Dr. S.M. Munjurul Hannan Khan, Executive Director, Nature Conservation Management (NACOM)

Dr. S.M. Munjurul Hannan Khan, Executive Director, NACOM initiated the session by acknowledging the presence of notable figures, including Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman, Honorable Minister (MoEFCC) Mr. Md. Shahab Uddin, and Mr. Stephen Liller. The central focus of the discussion revolved around COP 28, scheduled for November 29 to December 12 in Dubai, UAE. Dr. Khan highlighted various thematic areas, covering finance and trade, energy and industry, water resources, food and agriculture, resilience and adaptation, nature and land use, gender equity, health, education, youth and children, accountability, multilevel actions, urbanization, disability, locally led adaptation and indigenous people.



Keynote Presentation: Dr. S M Munjurul Hannan Khan, Executive Director, NACOM, delivering his keynote presentation.

Expressing concern on reducing greenhouse gases (GHGs) and the commitment to limit global temperatures to 1.5° C. Dr. Khan emphasized the necessity of deliberating on emission levels from both developed and developing countries. Addressing the extraction and utilization of fossil fuels, Dr. Khan advocated for a phased-out approach, including steps involved and the elimination of subsidies on fossil fuels. Country-specific, time-bound targets for renewable energy generation and universal energy access were deemed fundamental, and Dr. Khan emphasized the need for a comprehensive framework to achieve global adaptation goals.

Operationalization of the loss and damage fund was highlighted, with ongoing discussions aiming to secure support from developed countries. Dr. Khan emphasized the urgency of establishing and activating the loss and damage fund, aiming to mobilize \$100 billion annually from developed to developing countries to the Green Climate Fund as promised under the Paris Agreement. Transitioning to the thematic area of finance and trade, Dr. Khan stressed the significance of mobilizing \$100 billion, essential for achieving global adaptation goals. The financial aspect of climate action, particularly in adaptation and resilience, was emphasized as integral to shaping responses to climate change.

Proposing a substantial 20% phase-out of fossil fuel usage and associated subsidies by G20 countries, Dr. Khan urged a concrete plan to address financial gaps in transitioning to renewable energy. An induced mechanism to establish and activate funds for loss and damage was proposed, with a commitment to avoid deferring discussions from COP 28 to COP 29. Doubling adaptation finance for the Green Climate Fund and preparing NDCs and NAPs for climate neutrality by 2050 were highlighted as crucial steps.

Shifting to energy and industry, Dr. Khan emphasized the need to industrialize renewable energy and phase out emissions from the industry. Implementing climate action plans was emphasized, focusing on mobilizing finance for climate action and finalizing rules for implementing the Paris Agreement. Water resources were identified as a critical thematic area, with a call for an integrated approach and enhanced data and information for global water security. Action and support for conserving land, freshwater, and oceans were proposed.

Resilience and adaptation efforts by Bangladesh, particularly in the coastal belt, were acknowledged. Dr. Khan stressed the critical role of finance in climate adaptation discussions, emphasizing the need for a well-established framework. Capacity building for resilience, health sector engagement, and promoting equitable resilience were emphasized. The proposal for two new international mechanisms was presented to address loss and damage, requiring political determination and commitment. In the nature and land use thematic area, equitable access to nature and land, protection of forests, and restoration of degraded lands were highlighted as critical.

Dr. Khan advocated for gender equality, emphasizing meaningful representation of women in decision-making processes. Gender mainstreaming, special funds, and allocation for gender inclusion and development, and capacity-building programs for women were proposed. Health was identified as a less-discussed issue in climate change. The integration of the health sector, addressing health impacts, the link between health and low-carbon scenarios, and a phased-out plan for fossil fuels were emphasized. Education and capacity building were deemed crucial, emphasizing partnerships for climate education and youth capacity-building opportunities. Moreover, he stressed the importance of youth and children's involvement in policymaking activities and advocated for their representation from diverse backgrounds.

A dialogue for proposals in fully integrated global climate policymaking was proposed, focusing on building youth skills, capacity, knowledge and enhancing networking for effective participation in implementing the Paris Agreement. Encouraging accountability, emphasis was given to the developed countries transparently to meet their global commitments on climate finance. Multi-level actions involving developing and least developed countries were stressed. Urbanization and built development were addressed, urging a transition to sustainable resilient urbanization. Investment in clean energy, energy-efficient buildings, and sustainable transportation, aligning with national policies to reduce GHG emissions, was advocated. Locally led adaptation was discussed, emphasizing its sustainability, effectiveness, and need for finance. The importance of integrated adaptation and capacity building at the local level was highlighted. Dr. Khan noted the evolving nature of climate change knowledge, emphasizing incorporating this knowledge into adaptation. The inclusion of persons with disabilities and indigenous people in climate change discussions was stressed, and gratitude was expressed to conclude the discussion.



Speech of Special Guest by Mr. Stefan Liller, Resident Representative, UNDP Bangladesh

Mr. Stefan Liller, the UNDP Resident Representative, delivered a speech expressing gratitude to the guests and participants in the session related to climate change, just weeks before COP28. He conveyed enthusiasm about the critical session, emphasizing the importance of reviewing progress against the ambitious goals set in the 2015 Paris Agreement.



Speech of Special Guest: Mr. Stefan Liller, Resident Representative, UNDP Bangladesh, delivering his speech.

COP28's agenda was outlined, including establishing a global goal on adaptation, details about the loss and damage finance facility, defining the global finance goal, addressing emission gaps, and strategizing for a clean energy transition. Mr. Liller highlighted UNDP's global-specific work, particularly in Bangladesh, where they collaborate with the government to address climate challenges and reach over 6 million climate-vulnerable individuals. Key areas for the success of Bangladesh in achieving Paris Agreement objectives were mentioned, with a focus on operationalizing the loss and damage fund. Mr. Liller commended the monumental achievement of establishing the fund at COP27 and emphasized the need to find effective solutions for its operationalization in COP28. He expressed UNDP's readiness to offer technical support.

Challenges in adaptation, particularly in marginalized communities, were acknowledged, and UNDP's commitment to supporting Bangladesh in ensuring locally led adaptation was underscored. Leveraging climate finance for Bangladesh's graduation from the least developed country category was highlighted, with COP28 as an opportunity to lay the groundwork for new policies. The speech emphasized the importance of private sector engagement with a multistakeholder approach to accelerate climate action. Collaboration with the private sector is expected to generate a supportive financial ecosystem and resource mobilization. UNDP's commitment to intensifying partnerships with the private sector in Bangladesh for shared benefits and sustainable practices, including job opportunities and community capacity building, was noted.

The speech concluded with a focus on the significant role of young people in shaping the future, despite limited political participation. The threat to Bangladesh's energy sector due to global fossil fuel price volatility was highlighted, and collaborative efforts with neighbouring countries like India and Nepal were briefly mentioned.



Speech of the Chief Guest by Mr. Md. Shahab Uddin M.P., the Honorable Minister of the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC)

Mr. Md. Shahab Uddin M.P., the Honorable Minister of the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, expressed gratitude to the guests and participants in a session dedicated to addressing the adverse impacts of climate change. He began by paying homage to the Father of the Nation, Sheikh Mujibar Rahman, and offering condolences to Professor Saleemul Huq, an esteemed international climate researcher.



Speech of Chief Guest: Mr. Md. Shahab Uddin M.P., the Honorable Minister, MoEFCC, Bangladesh, delivering his speech.

The minister conveyed a sense of honor in combating climate change's adverse effects, citing the commitment and hard work of the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC). He highlighted the ongoing efforts of MoEFCC in compiling a comprehensive list of social and economic damages resulting from climate-induced hazards. Emphasising Bangladesh's vulnerability to climate change, the minister referenced the country's ranking as the seventh most extreme disaster risk-prone nation globally, according to the Global Climate Risk Index 2021. Despite the challenges, he expressed optimism that the discussions in the session would prove fruitful in the ongoing fight against the impacts of climate change.

He stressed the importance of international climate finance for implementing the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) in a climate-vulnerable country like Bangladesh. He called for the operationalization of the loss and damage fund in international conferences like COP28, especially for the least developed and developing countries. The minister advocated for collective efforts to ensure that countries responsible for implementing NDCs take necessary steps to reduce the global temperature by 1.5 °Cs Celsius by 2030. He underscored the need for developed countries, responsible for emissions, to contribute \$100 billion annually to developing countries by 2025, doubling the adaptation fund.

The upcoming COP28 was highlighted as an essential platform where climate change researchers would delve into subjects such as climate change adaptation, climate finance, food security, agriculture, water, natural resources, industrialization, health, and education, as well as capacity building for women, youth, and indigenous communities. Mr. Uddin expressed optimism that Bangladesh's participation in COP28 would be fruitful, emphasizing the main objective of discussing public-private partnerships to address the challenges of climate change on an international platform. In conclusion, he extended gratitude to the organizers for facilitating the session.



Speech of Chair by Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmed, Economist and Climate Change Expert, and Chairman of Dhaka School of Economics

Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmed, Economist and Climate Change Expert, and Chairman of Dhaka School of Economics, chaired the session. In his speech, he extended thanks to the guests and offered condolences to Professor Saleemul Haque. He congratulated the participants attending COP28 and highlighted the collaborative efforts of organizations and governments working toward the COP28 agendas.



Speech of Chair: *Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmed, Economist and Climate Change Expert, and Chairman of Dhaka School of Economics, delivering his speech.*

Dr. Ahmed emphasized that discussions on the impact of climate change have been ongoing for 28 years, starting with the primary focus on climate change mitigation. However, since 2007, the discussions have expanded to include climate change adaptation, finance, capacity building, and more. Despite these discussions at various levels, from local to international, Dr. Ahmed expressed dissatisfaction with the progress, stating that the situation is deteriorating daily. He referred to the urgent nature of the climate crisis, describing it as an "Era of boiling earth". Noting that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has stated that a 43% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 is necessary to control the impact of climate change, Dr. Ahmed underscored the importance of implementing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs).

Dr. Ahmed emphasized the need for social and economic development and stressed the importance of renewable energy without compromising food security. He urged the adaptation of renewable energy strategies tailored to the context and reality of each country. Additionally, he highlighted the necessity of fulfilling climate finance commitments and ensuring easy access to these funds. Lastly, Dr. Ahmed wished all the participants success in fulfilling their roles at COP28.

Technical Session

Moderator:

Dr. S.M. Munjurul Hannan Khan
Executive Director, NACOM

Ms. Sharmin Nahar Nipa
Coordinator, C3ER, BRAC University

Theme- Finance and Trade

Speaker:

Mr. M Zakir Hossain Khan
Managing Director & Chief Executive
Change Initiative Limited

Overview

Mr. Zakir Hossain Khan, Chief Executive of Change Initiative, expressed frustration with the current state of climate finance and the Climate Fund. He noted that efforts to access the promised \$100 billion fund from 2020 have not been successful, and the per capita climate fund allocation for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) is inadequate, ranging from \$30 to \$40 on average. In South Asia, the allocation is even lower, ranging from \$5 to \$10 per capita. Mr. Khan argued that this allocation is unjustified and insufficient, especially considering the urgency of the climate crisis.



Theme- Finance and Trade:
Mr. Zakir Hossain Khan, Chief Executive, Change Initiative giving his speech about Finance and

He emphasized the need to set a target for climate finance, stating that negotiations are not enough—it's a time for survival. Mr. Khan proposed that the European Union (EU) should allocate 10% of fossil fuel subsidies, amounting to \$140 billion, to fulfill the climate finance needs. He sees this as a fundamental benchmark for COP28. Failing this, Mr. Khan warned that LDC countries may resort to carbon taxing from 2025. Mr. Khan highlighted a major flaw in the Paris Agreement: while state parties agreed to

commitments, big multinational companies responsible for emitting greenhouse gases (GHGs) are not considered liable. He urged for this issue to be raised and addressed in COP28.

Regarding adaptation finance, Mr. Khan called for proactive measures, suggesting that LDC countries should donate the GDP loss of developing countries annually to support vulnerable nations. This approach addresses the financial burden of adaptation for countries most impacted by climate change.

Theme- Food and Agriculture

Speaker:

Dr. M Asaduzzaman

Former Research Director and Professional Fellow
Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS)

Overview

Dr. Md Asaduzzaman, Former Research Director of BIDS, addressed the agriculture, food security, and water theme for COP 28. He mentioned the four-year effort to address agriculture and food-related issues known as the Sharm Al Shaikh Joint Work on implementing climate action on agriculture and food security. The upcoming Dubai COP 28, scheduled for December 10, will emphasize these issues, covering 20 sub-issues. Despite not making explicit submissions, Bangladesh has aligned itself with the Least Developed Countries (LDC)



Theme- Food and Agriculture:
Dr. Md Asaduzzaman, Former Research Director, BIDS giving his speech regarding Food and Agriculture.

submission, calling for a holistic approach. This approach emphasizes actions such as development harmonization, an appropriate framework, methodology, and guidance to assess and track adaptation progress. It also calls for technology transfer, traditional and indigenous technology use, cross-sectoral policy coordination, and climate-smart agriculture.

Dr. Asaduzzaman highlighted the need for a dedicated financial mechanism to fund agriculture and food security, focusing on research and development (R&D). He stressed the importance of conducting technology needs assessments, integrating indigenous and scientific knowledge, and identifying national research priorities. However, he noted that certain critical issues, such as Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) in agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture, blue economy, agroecology, climate-smart agriculture, and integrated approaches, were not adequately addressed. He emphasized the importance of focusing on small-scale farmers, particularly their vulnerability and implications for production and adaptation. He highlighted the need for research and development initiatives to support adaptive agriculture, acknowledging the impact of climate change on labor, productivity, and income.

Regarding water issues in agriculture, Dr. Asaduzzaman mentioned methane emission reduction as a significant concern. He suggested using science to lower emissions, especially in rice cultivation. However, he noted that the issue of water pricing and consumption remains a challenge, particularly when water is sold and bought at a fixed price per area. He proposed exploring alternative pricing mechanisms, such as volume-based or ecosystem-based payment services. Dr. Asaduzzaman raised the issue of water sharing, particularly in the context of Bangladesh purchasing water from neighboring countries. He stressed the importance of addressing water-sharing concerns, especially considering ocean warming, acidification, and their impact on aquatic species in Bangladesh.

In his humble submission, Dr. Asaduzzaman called for a clear identification of the scientific processes of vulnerability in staple and non-staple foods under various scenarios. He emphasized the need to clarify mitigation and adaptation measures, monitor temperature progression, sea water temperature rise, ocean acidification, and suggest adaptive measures under different scenarios. Finally, he called for economically beneficial ways to lower water use, reduce nitrous oxide emissions, and ensure fair water sharing between upper and riparian countries.

Theme- Nature and Landuse

Speaker:

Dr. Haseeb Irfanullah
Visiting Research Fellow
Center for Sustainable Development (CSD), ULAB

Overview

Dr Haseeb Irfanullah, Visiting Research fellow, CSD, ULAB talked about nature, landuse and ocean. He mentioned that on December 9, 2023, at COP 28 a negotiation will be held on the integration of climate and biodiversity framework. At the Montreal Biodiversity Conference, a framework was adopted for the global biodiversity framework. National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan Document of Bangladesh was last updated for 2016-2021, but the updated NAP preserves goal number 4, which integrates biodiversity. Moreover, he appreciated Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan, which mentioned NbS solutions. He requested the participating negotiators on behalf of Bangladesh at the COP 28 event to contextualize the framework adopted at Kunmin Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework so that climate change is integrated sufficiently.



Theme- Nature and Landuse:
Dr Haseeb Irfanullah, Visiting Research fellow, CSD, ULAB delivering his speech about Nature and Landuse.

Another event at COP28 will be on Ecosystem and Food system resilience and transformation theme. He mentioned often food system is not considered from the perspective of ecology. In agrifood systems or resilience, integration of NbS is needed. He further requested to advocate issues on conservation agriculture, agroforestry, ecosystem-based aquaculture, and sustainability from the context of Bangladesh. Biodiversity loss is a non-economic loss and damage and its mostly unaddressed. Traditional practice loss, indigenous e loss, is not discussed. Thus, non-economic loss needs to be prioritized as well. Dr Irfanullah was working with FAO on Global Environment Facility (GEF) and mentioned that it funded loss and damage, there's also some adaptation funds such as the

Green Climate Fund, the World Bank fund etc. He drew the concern to the Bangladesh Conservation Act 2017, where a Biodiversity fund has been promised but not implemented in the last seven years.

Theme- Loss and Damage

Speaker:

Mr. M. Hafijul Islam Khan

Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh & Director,
Climate Justice-Bangladesh (CCJ-B)

Overview

Advocate Md Hafijul Islam Khan, Executive Director, Centre for Climate Justice Bangladesh talked about Loss and Damage and wanted to highlight global governance structure. He mentioned about WashU institutional mechanism of 2013, where he was an executive member in 2014. It has a broader mechanism; the executive member is its the policy arm. Secondly, a technical arm, 'Santiago Network for Loss and Damage was established in COP 25 with interest to catalyze technical assistance. Later, its structure and institutional function was prepared in Glasgow. In COP 28, the operational activities will be prepared, and the secretariat of this network will be selected.

The third issue is funding and financing. In COP 27, a fund was established with a transitional committee which conducted five meetings throughout the year and adopted a 17-page document.

Interestingly, EU ensured their substantial presence on the issue in COP 28. The fund was established last COP, it will be operationalizing this COP with an advisory board with legal personality. The advisory board will establish its autonomy under COP 28. A secretariat will be hosted, and the fund will be operationalized as Financially Integrated Fund (FIF) by the world Bank. The challenge is how the World bank will integrate it with its own rules and regulations with the board's rules and regulations if conflicts what will the hierarchy be. The World Bank meets 11 conditions, if they fulfil these conditions, an independent evaluation panel will be formed after four years



Theme- Loss and Damage:
*Advocate Md Hafijul Islam Khan,
Executive Director, CCJ-B,
delivering his speech about Loss
and Damage.*

and present it in COP CMAT. If the World Bank does not fulfil the conditions the fund will be operated as a standalone fund like GCF for loss and damage fund. A campaign has been run to support the fund to be renamed as 'Hug fund'.

Theme- Gender Equality

Speaker:

Ms. Farah Kabir
Country Director
ActionAid Bangladesh

Overview

Ms. Farah Kabir, Country Director of ActionAid Bangladesh, laid her speech on 'Gender Equity'. She emphasized that climate justice cannot be ensured without ensuring gender justice. Justice and equality are the cornerstones of society, planet and country. A sustainable solution must ensure equity. She focused on the fact that gender mainstreaming is a critical issue receiving attention at every COP. Despite living in societies and communities with high per capita incomes, equity is not always preserved, and both women and youth are often marginalized. As a result, it is essential to prioritize gender mainstreaming in all COP discussions to ensure that women and youth receive the treatment they deserve.



Theme- Gender Equity:
Ms. Farah Kabir, Country Director of ActionAid Bangladesh, delivering her speech about Gender Equity.

Gender mainstreaming is intended to ensure more than just increased representation; it should guarantee meaningful participation for women. Unfortunately, women are often not given decision-making roles or allowed to work in the forefront, despite doing much of the behind-the-scenes research. This gender inequity has been a significant issue at COP, with former President of Ireland Mary Robinson being among the speakers who have raised the issue.

Ms Kabir referenced previous COP events where gender equity was addressed as a key issue. In COP 2001 in Marrakech, the first time a decision

was adopted on improving the participation of women in the representation of UNFCCC process. After that, COP 18 in Doha decision was adopted to promote gender balance. Ms Kabir participated in that negotiation on behalf of Bangladesh and appreciated that participating developed countries like Mexico, Latin America were in a dilemma since they had 95% of women representation instead of 50%. In COP Lima, there was a two-year Lima workplan program on gender-focused, ways to promote gender balance, gender-responsive policies and ensuring environment mandates across all areas of UNFCCC as commitments.

The Paris Agreement ensured respect and promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women when tackling climate change. In COP 23 at Bonn, three year-based gender action plan was adopted. In COP 19 at Madrid, a five-year enhanced program on gender and gender action plan was adopted. In COP 2022 at Sharm Al Shaikh, an intermediate review of implementation of gender action plan was taken. She highlighted that gender action plan commitments come regularly in such negotiations, but the achievements are never ensured. To achieve the goal, political and government's commitment is necessary. In 2023 COP 28, representation of women, young people and persons with disabilities is needed in process, negotiation, delegation, and affirmative measures.

Additionally, UNFCCC needs to ensure improvement in coordination and action lead by parties. In climate change initiatives, meaningful equity needs to be secured. Strengthening the role of gender focal points, Bangladesh needs to offer mere insights for achieving gender related climate change target, gender action plans ensured with political commitment and finance. Equity needs to be ensured during the green transition from fossil fuel usage. It needs to be prioritized that woman traditionally protected the environment and acknowledging women leadership, participation in negotiation and gender responsive JUST transition will be demanded in COP 28.

Theme- Health

Speaker:

Dr. Md Iqbal Kabir
Professor
Climate Change and Health Promotion Unit
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Overview

Dr Md Iqbal Kabir, Professor, CCHPU, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare shared about health theme. In 1998 an intensive flood occurred in Bangladesh and El Nino La Nina was a reason behind this event. In 2008, WHO shared that health impacts are associated with climate change. Since then, he started working on climate change and health. From 2014, WHO started the climate change and health wing. In Paris Agreement, health right is human right was addressed.



Theme- Health:
*Dr Md Iqbal Kabir, Professor,
CCHPU, MoHFW, delivering his
speech about Health.*

During 2018, an international consultant prepared a health adaptation plan, which the DGHS did not accept in the last 5 years. Currently, a health NAP is under preparation, which in the last COP in Spain was shared and a side event was organized on it. Currently, public health crisis is being addressed as climate crisis. From GEF fund, globally only 0.5% has been given to work on health. In 2010, support from received from BCCT. A course has been introduced in the University of Dhaka on 'Climate Change and Health'. A community based primary healthcare approach needs to be taken for risk and vulnerability assessment. A conservative estimate has been prepared from 2021 to 2030 using rainfall, humidity and temperature data and a projection is prepared. For the next 10 years to cure diarrhoea disease, an extra 16 million Bangladesh currency is needed, as per the findings. In the current study, population projection, inflation rates were not incorporated which could have given an accurate view.

Also, BBS surveyed disaster loss and damage, but infrastructure loss and damage were not incorporated. A thumb rule was considered that for 10

year more \$10 billion is needed. Thus \$38 billion burden is there to achieve SDG goals. Health is multisectoral and associated with water, transport, sanitation, agriculture, landuse, energy, housing etc. He is optimistic that in COP28, as predicted 2024 will be the warmest year of El Nino La Nina, initiative will be taken to come up with climate change and health. Bangladesh aligns with climate change and health along with an advisory board. In post-pandemic era, investment in green and public health infrastructure is needed and should initially start with health infrastructure and develop climate resilient health system. He wished for the negotiators to collaboratively work on GCF and global fund prioritizing health as a climate crisis.

Theme- Energy Transition

Speaker:

Mr. Arif M. Faisal
Programme Specialist-Nature, Climate & Energy
UNDP Bangladesh

Overview

Mr. Arif Mohammad Foysal, Program Specialist-Nature, Climate and Energy at UNDP Bangladesh, delivered a speech on energy transition, emphasizing the shift from fossil fuel-based energy to clean energy. In the global context, he highlighted the goals set for COP28, aiming to fast-track the energy transition and reduce emissions by tripling renewable energy (RE) and doubling energy efficiency (EE) by 2030. If fully implemented, NDCs, LT-LEDS, and net-zero targets could reduce CO2 emissions significantly by 2030 and 2050.



Theme- Energy Transition:
Mr. Arif Mohammad Foysal, Program Specialist-Nature, Climate and Energy at UNDP Bangladesh, delivering his speech on Energy Transition.

Global investments in energy transition reached a record high in 2022, but fossil fuel capital investments still exceeded RE investments. A substantial

investment of \$150 trillion is required by 2050 to achieve the 1.5°C target, with current policies and investments not consistently moving in the right direction. In the national context, Bangladesh ranks 41st in renewable energy, with a government target to generate 40% of energy from renewable sources by 2041. The country heavily depends on fossil fuels, with 59% and 15% reliance on natural gas and coal, respectively. Per capita emissions increased by 31.93% from 2012 to 2019.

Mr. Foysal discussed unconditional and conditional scenarios for emission reduction, with energy-related reductions comprising nearly 95%. Potential renewable energy types include solar, wind, hydro, biomass, and regional energy trade, with a total potential energy of 50-80 GW compared to the installed capacity of 1194.7 MW. He presented electricity generation costs by fuel type and proposed mitigation actions based on unconditionality and conditionality. The estimated cost of mitigation actions over ten years is \$176 billion, as outlined in the NDC. Policies, strategies, and action plans were mentioned, along with challenges such as depleting gas reserves, land acquisition issues, and costly fossil fuel imports.

Mr. Foysal concluded by offering recommendations, including the immediate formulation of a pragmatic energy transition action plan, setting a national target to reduce fossil fuel dependency, and integrating energy transition and green development into national plans. He emphasized the need for government support in risk guarantee, concessional finance, and other measures to make renewable energy projects viable.

Theme- Education Skills and Capacity Building

Speaker:

Mr. Shamim Arfeen
Executive Director
AOSED-An Organization for Socio-Economic Development

Overview

Mr. Shamim Arfeen, Executive Director of AOSED, began his speech by defending the importance of education in addressing climate change. He highlighted the obligation of Annex 1 nations under the Kyoto Protocol to contribute 1% of their tax revenues to education and research in developing

nations. However, he noted that these nations have yet to fulfil this obligation. Mr. Arfeen emphasized that since his organization started addressing climate education in 2003, they have provided instruction to 64 upper secondary school students in less than 20 years.

He stressed the need for evidence-based qualification in capacity development and argued that teachers, the general public, and political parties should actively participate in climate action. Mr. Arfeen asserted that political leaders, as influential figures in society, should be considerate and take action against climate change. He highlighted the importance of considering various factors in endeavors, citing the example of the impact of taking up agricultural land for constructing a cyclone shelter.



Theme- Education Skills and Capacity Building:

Mr. Shamim Arfeen, Executive Director of AOSSED giving his speech on Education Skills and Capacity Building.

The speaker urged architects and engineers to be more concerned with seemingly insignificant factors like site selection. He emphasized the necessity of collaboration with international organizations for financing capacity building and education. Mr. Arfeen pointed out that while the government may acquire new equipment, organizations often struggle to utilize it due to a shortage of qualified operators. He called for capacity building across all sectors, focusing on ministries and educational institutions.

Highlighting the broad scope of education, Mr. Arfeen noted that it includes capacity building, applied education, climate education, technological know-how, and other areas. He suggested that building capacity has become a central focus in climate finance, economics, and geopolitics. The speaker concluded by emphasizing the importance of involving various stakeholders in capacity building to address the multifaceted challenges posed by climate change.

Theme- Water Resources

Speaker:

Dr. A.K.M. Saiful Islam

Professor

Institute of Water and Flood Management (IWFM),
Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET)

Overview

Dr A K M Saiful Islam, Professor, IWFM, BUET mentioned that Bangladesh ranks 7th in the climate risk index in terms of disaster and climate change and thus every year adaptation has been focused. He acknowledged that mainly the developed countries emit GHGs and the consequence sufferers are the least developed ones. He mentioned that the Paris Agreement emphasized that global warming must be kept under 2 °C and that effort should be given to keep under 1.5 °C. He contributed to IPCC working group 1 and said all emission scenarios will cross 1.5 °C by 2040. On the other hand, a recently published article found that by 2029 1.5°C will be crossed. Since there's atmospheric cleaning through aerosol reduction, a cooling effect has started. As per the current graph, it's at 1.1°C now. Countries like Bangladesh will become more vulnerable if the temperature increases 1.5°C after seven years. Thus, he mentioned there's very little time left to experience the adverse consequences.

According to the lowest level emission SSP 1.9, even if GHGs emission is entirely controlled, it will cross 1.5°C and start its cooling effect afterwards. If the temperature reaches 1.5°C, coral leaching will occur intensively and if it reaches 2°C, sea level will rise, and extreme cyclonic events will increase since global warming intensifies cloud forming. A 2°C temperature increase will lead to a 14% increase in rainfall and per the hydrologic model study, Bangladesh will face 11% increase of rainfall even if there's a 1°C temperature increase. In the GMB basin rainfall will increase 36% and flood events will occur frequently. He



Theme- Water Resources:

*Dr A K M Saiful Islam, Professor,
IWFM, BUET giving his speech on
Water Resources.*

recalled Sylhet flood last year and the recent Chittagong flood as adverse events and mentioned there is lack in drainage capacity.

Dr. Saiful Islam requested to implement the initiatives of the National Adaptation Plan immediately after coming from COP. Also, the Delta Plan, Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan should go through a synthesis and identify priorities as longer, medium term and short term. Since coastal areas face drinking water scarcity, water conservation needs to be prioritized. WASH programs need to be implemented since it's a part of SDG goal which will be achieved by 2030. The urban towns suffer from pollution, air pollution, having no open space, absence of wetland conservation, climate change-induced problems etc. Ensuring a financial mechanism, implementing adaptation option sooner, water resource management, proper and efficient water management plan should be targets of Bangladesh.

Theme- Youth and Children

Speaker:

Sohanur Rahman
Executive Coordinator
YouthNet for Climate Justice

Overview

Sohanur Rahman, Executive Coordinator of YouthNet for Climate Justice, began his speech by underscoring the significance of youth voices in climate discussions. He emphasized that issues related to the rights and concerns of children and youth are non-negotiable. Rohman provided insights into the historical participation of youth representatives in previous COPs, noting the limited presence in Madrid, increased discussions in Glasgow, and anticipated initiatives for implementation in Dubai.



Theme- Youth and Children:
Mr. Sohanur Rahman, Executive Coordinator of YouthNet for Climate Justice giving his speech on Youth and Children.

Highlighting the proactive role of Bangladeshi youth in climate action, particularly in the aftermath of floods in Sylhet, Rohman expressed disappointment that youth are often perceived merely as volunteers and lack the respect they deserve. He pointed out the neglect of youth leadership, citing the discrepancy between the National Climate Budget involving 25 ministries and the Ministry of Youth and Sports, which operates separately. Mr. Rahman raised concerns about the limited investments for young people and children globally, despite the increasing participation of youth in comparison to declining civil society involvement. While acknowledging UNDP's appointment of youth negotiators, he questioned the accessibility of opportunities for young people to participate in COP, emphasizing the uncertainty surrounding meaningful Bangladeshi youth involvement in COP28.

A crucial question posed by Mr. Rahman was how representation and engagement for youth could be guaranteed, considering the challenges faced in obtaining batches for COP. He also addressed the less favorable situation for children's involvement, as they require additional funding due to the need for guardians to accompany them. Despite being the least responsible for climate change, the younger generation is expected to bear its brunt, and Rohman stressed the importance of providing resources and opportunities for them to contribute meaningfully to climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts.

Theme- Accountability

Speaker:

Dr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed
Deputy Managing Director,
Palli-Karma Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)

Overview

Dr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed, DMD, PKSF, introduced the term "Accountability" in the context of climate change diplomacy, focusing on both national and international perspectives. He highlighted that although

item 4.9 of the UNDP framework agreement provides explicit accountability guidelines, their implementation is crucial. According to legal recognition in the Kyoto Protocol, first-world nations are obligated to mitigate and compensate for their climate change-related obligations. However, recent research indicates that countries like Canada have increased carbon emissions by 36% since 1990, and Japan and the USA have not taken responsibility or offered compensation.

Dr. Sadeque Ahmed acknowledged that while the Paris Agreement is less legally enforceable, accountability still needs improvement, and it includes a compliance mechanism. He emphasized that Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) submissions result in legal obligations, and decisions are made at the national level specific to each country. He questioned the necessity of a roadmap for NDC implementation, suggesting reconsidering the topic. While expressing debatable views, he emphasized the necessity of the Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) mechanism. The speaker noted that rich nations can avoid their responsibilities in international politics without pressure, whereas developing nations must adhere to agreed NDCs, aligning them with their economic and contextual frameworks. Dr. Sadeque Ahmed advocated for the collaboration of underdeveloped countries, like Bangladesh, with others that share their interests as a group when discussing the rights of developing countries. He questioned the rush for Bangladesh to achieve Net Zero by 2050 when China and India have targets for 2060 or 2070. Dr. Sadeque Ahmed suggested that emissions may sometimes be necessary for development in certain sectors, and Bangladesh should prioritize its development. He criticized the term "investment" in climate finance discussions, emphasizing its incorrectness, as it often implies profit-making, which is not always relevant in the context of adaptation.

In summary, Dr. Sadeque Ahmed highlighted the importance of considering various factors, including accountability, MRV mechanisms, and aligning NDCs with national contexts, in the pursuit of effective climate change diplomacy.



Theme - Accountability:
*Dr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed,
DMD, PKSF giving his speech on
Accountability.*

Theme- Urbanization and Built Environment

Speaker:

Prof. Kamruzzaman Ahmed Majumder
Founder and Director,
Center for Atmospheric Pollution Studies (CAPS).
Stamford University

Overview

Professor Kamruzzaman Ahmed Majumder, Director of CAPS at Stamford University, initially focused on the interconnected issues of carbon emissions and air pollution. He highlighted the linkage between climate change and air pollution, emphasizing that they are interdependent. Notably, he mentioned a global initiative where 94 organizations wrote to the COP organizing committee, urging the prioritization of air pollution as a major issue. However, he expressed disappointment as air pollution was included as a sub-theme rather than the main theme at the COP.



Theme- Urbanization and Built Environment:

Professor Kamruzzaman Ahmed Majumder, Director of CAPS giving his speech on Urbanization and Built Environment.

Identifying fossil fuel use as the primary cause of pollution and emissions, Professor Majumder argued that when wealthier nations display greater responsibility and awareness, developing nations bear a lesser burden of pollution and emissions. He underscored the importance of prioritizing air pollution in the context of climate change. Given that the transportation industry is a significant consumer of fossil fuels, he advocated for increased efforts to transition to renewable energy sources.

Highlighting Dhaka as the world's most heavily affected city by air pollution, Professor Majumder noted that pollution has reduced the average lifespan of inhabitants in the country by eight years. He emphasized that air pollution is not only a health concern but also leads to loss and destruction. In discussing climate change, he urged everyone to prioritize mitigating air pollution, considering it as vital for national development.

Theme- Locally Led Adaptation

Speaker:

Mr. Mohon Kumar Mondal

Executive Director

Local Environment Development and Agricultural Research Society
(LEDARS)

Overview

Mr. Mohon Kumar Mondal, Executive Director of LEDARS, presented on Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) and its challenges and opportunities at the Expert Consultation on Thematic Programs of COP28. He began by expressing gratitude and highlighting his connection to Shaymnagar, Sathkhira District, adjacent to the Sundarbans. Mr. Mondal emphasized the importance of locally led adaptation for the people of Shaymnagar and beyond.



Theme- Locally Led Adaptation:
*Mr. Mohon Kumar Mondal,
Executive Director of LEDARS
giving his speech on Locally Led
Adaptation.*

As described by Mr. Mondal, Locally led Adaptation involves consulting and involving local communities, community-based organizations (CBOs), business communities, citizen groups, local governments, and private sector entities in decision-making and implementing climate adaptation interventions. The goal is to ensure that local actors on the frontlines of climate change have equitable access to power and resources to build resilience. LLA is seen as a holistic approach, considering the perspectives of the entire society in the decision-making process. Mr. Mondal provided an overview of LLA, mentioning that the term was first proposed during the United Nations Climate Action Summit in 2019 but had been embedded in community adaptation techniques for almost 20 years. The concept evolved from "Community-Based Adaptation" (CBA), formulated in 2005, leading to the emphasis on LLA in the "LDC 2050 Vision" of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) group. He outlined the eight principles of Locally Led Adaptation, covering aspects like decision-making, understanding climate risk, addressing inequalities, flexibility, transparency, and collaboration.

He stressed the importance of organizing regional dialogues on LLA for knowledge sharing and recommending solutions to challenges. Mr. Mondal advocated for awareness-raising programs and integrating LLA into global processes. In the context of Bangladesh, he discussed the opportunities of LLA, emphasizing its resourcefulness for uplifting and capacitating vulnerable communities and embedding LLA in existing policies. However, he also pointed out challenges in the Bangladesh context, including gaps in providing finance to local actors, ignoring essential local knowledge, limited human resources, and the need for capacity building, alternative livelihood opportunities, and transparent financing.

Mr. Mondal concluded his speech by suggesting solutions to the challenges, such as strengthening the coalition for locally led adaptations and ensuring the delivery of finance, with a target of allocating 25% of climate finance to LLA.

Theme- Disability

Speaker:

Mr. Syed Sabbir Hasan

Advocacy & Documentation Officer

Strengthening Resilience in South & South-East Asia by Integrating Risk Management, Social Inclusion & Socio-Economic Development
Centre for Disability in Development (CDD)

Overview

Syed Sabbir Hasan, Advocacy and Documentation Officer, Centre for Disability in Development gave his valuable speech on disability at the Expert Consultation on Thematic Programs of COP28. Mr. Hasan's statement sheds light on a crucial aspect often overlooked in discussions about disability—the impact of climate-induced natural disasters. He highlighted the unfortunate reality that these disasters can lead to injuries, disabilities, and long-term challenges for affected individuals. The statistic he mentioned, citing data from the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) in 2022, indicates that from 2015 to 2022, over 172,000 people were injured due to climate-induced natural disasters in Bangladesh. From this, at least 10,000 individuals became disabled due to these events.



Theme- Disability:

Mr. Syed Sabbir Hasan, Advocacy and Documentation Officer, CDD giving his speech on Locally Led Disability.

in 2022, indicates that from 2015 to 2022, over 172,000 people were injured due to climate-induced natural disasters in Bangladesh. From this, at least 10,000 individuals became disabled due to these events.

Mr. Hasan highlighted that disabilities should not be treated as isolated issues but rather as an inherent aspect of the broader community, he underscores the need for inclusive approaches in development projects and initiatives. He mentioned that CDD works on projects trying to learn different livelihood capacity and adaptation measures for persons with disabilities. Addressing livelihood opportunities for persons with disabilities and implementing adaptation measures can contribute significantly to their empowerment and resilience in the face of challenges, particularly in the context of climate-induced disasters. He finished his speech by thanking all audiences in the program.

Theme- Indigenous Community

Speaker:

Mrinal Kanti Tripura

Director

Maleya Foundation & Observer, UNFCCC-COP

Overview

Mr. Mrinal Kanti Tripura, Director, Maleya Foundation & Observer, UNFCCC-COP started his speech by showing gratitude to the audience and presenting his Indigenous community speech. He mentioned that he participated in this year's Asian Indigenous Community Conference on Biodiversity and Climate Change, and he stated some of the key issues of the conference. He mentioned that participation of an Indigenous Knowledge Holder student from Dhaka University at this year's COP demonstrates a positive step toward promoting inclusivity and recognizing the significance of indigenous perspectives in global climate discussions. This



Theme- Indigenous Community:
Mr. Mrinal Kanti Tripura, Director, Maleya Foundation & Observer, UNFCCC-COP delivering his speech on Indigenous Community.

inclusion allows for diverse voices and knowledge systems to contribute to the dialogue on climate action, enriching the conversations with valuable insights and experiences from indigenous communities.

Mr. Tripura described the challenges indigenous communities face due to climate change as multifaceted and severe. Deforestation, land degradation, water scarcity, and disruptions in traditional weather patterns significantly impact their livelihoods, cultures, and well-being. He further stated that indigenous communities often possess valuable traditional knowledge and practices that can contribute significantly to climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts. Their understanding of local ecosystems, biodiversity, and sustainable land management practices can offer unique solutions in combating environmental degradation and recognition of these challenges on a global platform is crucial. He further stated that it is important to involve indigenous peoples, including indigenous women, person with disabilities, in policymaking and implementation processes especially in National Adaptation Plan and other relevant policies. Recognizing their rights to land, resources, and self-determination is essential in addressing the impacts of climate change on their communities.

Moreover, empowering indigenous voices in decision-making can lead to more holistic and effective strategies for tackling these pressing issues. He addressed that providing technical and financial support to indigenous communities is crucial in effectively enabling them to combat the climate-induced challenges they face. These communities often have deep-rooted traditional knowledge and practices that, when combined with modern techniques and resources, can create powerful solutions for climate resilience he added. He also mentioned that it is important to include loss and damage into the indigenous community related policies. Further human rights principles and agendas must be at the heart of the loss and damage fund mechanism he stated. He stated that defining and including non-economic loss and damage within the framework of loss and damage funds is vital. Moreover, incorporating dedicated facilities or work programs within global frameworks like the biodiversity framework and climate funds specifically tailored to indigenous communities, including indigenous women, is essential he mentioned. Finally, He ended his speech by thanking all audiences in the program.

Open Discussion

The open discussion session was facilitated by Professor Dr. Ainun Nishat, Professor Emeritus and Advisor, Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research (C3ER), BRAC University. Before starting the session, Dr. Nishat emphasized the need for practical scenarios after disasters and climate change, suggesting that NGOs and organizations should engage more actively, conduct regular assessments, and influence the government based on research findings. He also recommended the need for a logical framework and regular monitoring of progress and highlighted the importance of presenting issues in a strategic manner during COP 28 and influencing policy and decision-makers. He called for government representatives to actively engage in negotiations, present agendas, and conduct bilateral meetings to address climate-related issues.



Open Discussion:

Dr. Ainun Nishat, Professor Emeritus and Advisor, Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research (C3ER), BRAC University facilitating the open discussion.

The input from a person with disabilities in Gaibandha during the open discussion sheds light on the specific challenges faced by this community in the context of climate change. The individual highlighted the experience of untimely heavy rainfall and drought, emphasizing the adverse impacts on their homes and farming lands, leading to floods.

The participants described the importance of ensuring the active participation of persons with disabilities in decision-making processes related to climate change adaptation, mitigation, and long-term resilience programs. Their unique perspectives and coping mechanisms should be recognized and integrated into local-level adaptation procedures. The speaker emphasized the need for organizations and initiatives to consider the opinions of persons with disabilities to effectively address their concerns and incorporate their adaptive techniques into broader climate resilience strategies.



Participants in Open Discussion



Closing Session

Summary of Technical Session by Chair

Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmed, Economist, Climate Change Expert, and Chairman of Dhaka School of Economics, served as the chair of the technical session. In his closing remarks, he summarised the key points discussed during the session and extended good wishes to the participants who will be attending COP28. His concluding remarks likely included encouraging words and a call for collaborative efforts in addressing the pressing issues related to climate change. He specifically emphasizes on-

In his concluding words, Dr. Ahmed passionately advocated for profound engagement of youth in the COP28 negotiation process. He stressed the pivotal role of effective involvement of women in governmental policy-making, advocating for their rights within the negotiation sphere.

Highlighting the importance of prioritizing Natural Loss and Damage calculation in national strategies, Dr. Ahmed urged for its inclusion in the negotiation process. Expressing concern, he voiced disappointment in the mechanisms of the Loss and Damage Fund, foreseeing potential inadequacy in funding.

Additionally, Dr. Ahmed emphasized the paramount significance of addressing the impacts of climate change on national health and integrating this aspect into the negotiation process. He underscored the obligation for developed countries to prioritize the development of their net-zero strategies, acknowledging the less pronounced significance of this issue for least GHG emitter countries.

Dr. Ahmed reiterated the imperative need for effective inclusion of disability and indigenous communities in national strategy-making and within the negotiation process. His comprehensive remarks underscored the importance of an all-encompassing approach to address multifaceted climate challenges.

Overall, Dr. Ahmed's eloquent insights emphasized the necessity for inclusive, collaborative, and forward-thinking strategies in navigating the complexities of climate change on a global scale.

Vote of Thanks by Ms. Roufa Khanum, Assistant Director at C3ER, BRAC University

Ms. Roufa Khanum, Assistant Director at C3ER, BRAC University, expresses heartfelt gratitude to all attendees for their active participation in the discussion. She announces the scheduled dates for COP 28, which will occur from November 30 to December 12 in Dubai. The meeting covered crucial topics that will be extensively discussed at COP 28, and the Bangladesh government has initiated the process of drafting position papers to represent the country at the event. The

information gathered from the discussions is expected to contribute significantly to shaping Bangladesh's perspective at COP 28. Ms. Roufa Khanum extends her thanks to all speakers for their valuable contributions to the discussions across various topics. She appreciated departments, ministries, educational institutions, international organizations, and participants from diverse backgrounds for sharing their insights. Special recognition is given to the organizers of the event, with gratitude extended to partner organizations such as NACOM, C3ER, BRAC University, Prokriti o Jibon, Action Aid, Leaders, Arannayk Foundation, ICCCAD, UNDP, CDD, Youth Net for Climate Justice, and Eco Network. The speaker acknowledges the pivotal role played by each entity in ensuring the success of the event and creating a platform for meaningful dialogue.



Vote of Thanks:

Ms. Roufa Khanum, Assistant Director, C3ER, BRAC University giving her speech during vote of thanks.



Event Participants: Experts and practitioners from across the country gather for the event at pan pacific Sonargaon, 15th November 2023



Appendix-1

Write Up on Different Themes from Experts

Disability

Author:

Mr. Syed Sabbir Hasan
Advocacy & Documentation Officer, CDD

Bangladesh is among the nations in the world that face significant threats from climate change. Moreover, the marginalized communities residing in disaster-prone, and climate change-affected regions of the country are particularly vulnerable. This marginalized population includes persons with disabilities who encounter numerous barriers when it comes to participating in various activities as well as protecting themselves in crisis periods such as disasters. The Government of Bangladesh has already taken steps to enact and enforce separate laws and policies aimed at safeguarding the rights of persons with disabilities. Furthermore, there is a strong emphasis on ensuring the involvement of persons with disabilities in various aspects of the government's disaster management and climate change adaptation initiatives. The Center for Disability in Development (CDD) has been collaborating with the Government of Bangladesh since 1996 to advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities and establish an inclusive society that promotes non-discrimination.

The upcoming COP28 will bring together world leaders to discuss a range of important issues related to climate change, including health, water resources, food and agriculture, gender, and minority ethnic groups. However, it is concerning that the issue of disability has not been included in the conference's agenda. As CDD points out, there are currently 1.63 billion people living with disabilities worldwide, which represents 16% of the global population (<https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/disability-and-health>). If we are to achieve our climate targets, it is crucial that we take into account the needs and perspectives of people with disabilities.

CDD expresses deep concern as it highlights the intrinsic connections between disability and climate change in the specific context of Bangladesh.

- From 2015 to 2020, climate change-induced natural disasters in Bangladesh caused injuries to a total of 172,426 individuals, with 9,949 of them experiencing disabilities as a result. Bangladesh Disaster-related Statistics (BDRS) 2021: Climate Change and Natural Disaster Perspectives
- Out of these 9,949 individuals, a staggering 69% experienced disability as a direct result of injuries caused solely by floods and cyclones. It is important to highlight that Bangladesh, being adversely affected by climate change, has witnessed a notable rise in the occurrence of floods and cyclones, which contribute to these detrimental consequences. Bangladesh Disaster-related Statistics (BDRS) 2021: Climate Change and Natural Disaster Perspectives
- Khulna, Rangpur, and Rajshahi, the three divisions in Bangladesh, have the highest disability prevalence rate of 3.62%, 3.54%, and 3.30% respectively. It is important to note that these divisions are particularly susceptible to the adverse impacts of climate change. National Survey on Persons with Disabilities (NSPD) 2021
- The highest reported reason for disability among persons with disabilities is "Congenital," accounting for 41.09% of cases in Bangladesh. This particular reason is most prevalent in the Khulna division. The effects of climate change are more pronounced in Khulna division, including salinity, uneven rainfall, drought and extreme heat waves. National Survey on Persons with Disabilities (NSPD) 2021
- The incidence of disability resulting from natural disasters specifically such as cyclones, floods, and lightning is 0.46%. However, the coastal and climate-vulnerable regions as; Barisal (0.88%), Khulna (0.67%), and Chittagong (0.62%) divisions have higher rates compared to other areas in this particular case. National Survey on Persons with Disabilities (NSPD) 2021

Unfortunately, the UNFCCC has not given sufficient consideration to the rights of persons with disabilities up until now. At the COP 16 in 2010, the Cancun Agreements recognized that people with disabilities are among the

groups most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, as stated in decision 1/CP.16. Besides, in the preamble of the Paris Agreement, the Parties also recognized the importance of upholding human rights, including the rights of persons with disabilities, while undertaking measures to combat climate change. UNFCCC bodies have consistently emphasized the significance of considering the requirements of persons with disabilities and promoting their active involvement in various aspects such as capacity building, education, awareness, adaptation, and action for climate empowerment, as evident in numerous decisions and reports.

Persons with disabilities are incorporated within these provisions, decisions, and reports, alongside other vulnerable groups, without receiving preferential treatment. Furthermore, specific initiatives aimed at upholding and fulfilling the rights of other groups, such as the Indigenous Peoples Platform or the Gender Action Plan, have not been specifically tailored to address the needs of persons with disabilities.

CDD urges all Bangladesh representatives involved in global climate change discussions to prioritize the issue of climate vulnerability for persons with disabilities. Additionally, CDD anticipates that persons representing Bangladesh at COP28 will spearhead efforts to incorporate disability inclusion in climate negotiations and planning procedures. CDD has outlined specific recommendations for disability inclusion in climate change mitigation.

- Ensuring the availability of information that is disaggregated by gender, age, and disability is crucial in vulnerability assessment, planning, implementation, and monitoring processes. Appropriate measures must be taken to achieve this.
- Ensuring the active involvement of persons with disabilities or their organization's representatives in the climate change financing negotiation process.
- Identifying their special needs by taking the opinions of people with disabilities in formulating and implementing the adaptation process and taking measures accordingly.
- By specifically targeting and identifying the needs and barriers to participation, it is crucial to ensure the meaningful involvement of

persons with disabilities in all capacity building activities related to climate change adaptation.

- It is imperative to incorporate the discussion on disability resulting from climate change-induced natural disasters into the assessment of loss and damages and ensure its inclusion in compensation considerations.
- The objective is to assess the potential psychological distress experienced by affected communities as a result of climate change and its influence on natural disasters, while also fostering innovative approaches to safeguarding mental health in these challenging circumstances.
- Making commitments to dedicate resources towards enhancing the capacity of organizations of people with disabilities and the agencies working for them to address climate change, and guarantee sufficient financial support for this purpose.

Strengthening Climate Accountability- Improving Compliance and Delivery under the Paris Agreement

Author:

Dr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed
Deputy Managing Director, PKSF

Introduction: Accountability is very crucial in the current global climate change diplomacy. This is especially very important because the climate governance structure is still weak and current pledges are insufficient to adhere to science-based targets for limiting temperature rise within 1.5°C or well below 2°C. Actual implementation and political commitment particularly by the developed and industrialized countries, enforcement of or adherence to the obligations of climate agreements, and accountability of the consequences of non-compliance is becoming the major issue at the CoP/CMA level.

Pre-2020 climate regime

The climate crisis is causing heatwaves and floods across the globe, impacting our economy, health, and natural ecosystems at large (IPCC

2022). With increasing fossil fuel emissions as well as record high greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations, we are certainly heading in the wrong direction (UN 2022). Moreover, the science is clear on the need for more ambitious climate actions to reduce global temperatures and avoid a climate catastrophe.

The member nations to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) have been working for almost three decades. The UNFCCC aims to prevent 'dangerous' human interference with the climate system. The Convention puts the responsibility on developed countries to reduce emissions and suggests that they support and uphold developing countries in their climate efforts and actions, following the rule of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC).

To operationalize the principles of the Convention, member states negotiated and adopted the Kyoto Protocol (1997) and its Doha Amendment (2012). Both these climate agreements set legally binding targets on developed countries. The Kyoto Protocol sets a collective emissions reduction target of 5 per cent on 1990 levels for the period 2008_2012, whereas the Doha Amendment sets a reduction target of 18 per cent on 1990 levels for the period 2013_2020 (UNFCCC 1998, 2012). Although both the climate agreements were expected to establish a strong foundation for the fight against climate change, there were major setbacks and concerns surrounding their implementation.

Let us highlight the performance of developed countries. The United States never ratified to the Kyoto Protocol. Canada's national emissions increased by 30 per cent instead of decreasing by 6 per cent from 1990 levels (Curry and McCarthy 2011). Canada also withdrew from the Kyoto regime to avoid paying billions of dollars as a non-compliance penalty (FT 2011). Japan also quit from the climate agreements. Russian Federation and New Zealand refused to accept the new targets under the Doha Amendment. Due to these issues, the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol did not come into force for almost its entire duration (Prasad, Pandey, and Bhasin 2021).

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report further indicates that the mitigation efforts undertaken by developed nations under the Kyoto Protocol were insufficient (IPCC, 2007). None of the developed countries made efforts to strengthen their commitments or revise their

pledges despite being encouraged by the IPCC's fourth assessment report to enhance their targets by at least 25 to 40 per cent below the 1990 levels by 2020.

With regard to providing support to developing and least-developed countries, the climate finance goal commitment of 100 billion US dollars by 2020 was never met (Timperley 2021). The decision text of the Glasgow Climate Pact also expressed deep regret that this financial goal was not met (UNFCCC 2021). Furthermore, developed countries do not agree to make common definition of climate finance and the calculation of climate finance is not transparent. Double counting is very common to calculate the amount of climate finance. The windows of climate finance under UNFCCC are almost empty.

How accountability operationalized in the Paris Agreement?

At the twenty-first Conference of Parties, countries agreed on a new global climate deal, the Paris Agreement, to combat global climate change. The Paris Agreement was a monumental step because it brought all nations together to undertake ambitious climate efforts, adapt to climate impacts, and enhance support to assist developing countries. The Paris Agreement is a legally binding agreement, which sets out a global framework to limit global temperature rise to 2°C within this century, and preferably 1.5°C, if possible. However, the success of the Paris Agreement depends on ensuring compliance and enforcing accountability (Climate Law and Governance Initiative 2022).

The following features of the Paris Agreement relate to accountability and compliance:

A. Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)

Unlike the Kyoto Protocol or Doha Amendment, where the targets were incorporated in an annex to the agreement, the Paris Agreement obligates countries to "undertake and communicate ambitious efforts" in the form of NDCs to achieve the goals of the agreement. These commitments should be made every five years to reflect a country's highest possible ambition and should represent a progression of ambition from previous NDCs. Countries are also encouraged to prepare their longterm strategies (mid-century) on how they are planning their transitions towards low GHG emissions or net zero, taking in account national circumstances and best-available science.

B. Enhanced transparency framework (ETF)

One of the central components of the Paris Agreement is the ETF, which builds on the existing transparency mechanism and adds credibility to member states' efforts to implement climate actions. The ETF guidelines offer a common approach to the reporting and review process, but with flexibilities for developing countries (linked to their capacity constraints). The ETF supersedes the existing transparency arrangements and demands that all countries report more granular data than before on their GHG emissions along with progress in implementing NDCs, adaptation measures and efforts, and the support (financial, technological, and capacity-building) needed, received, and/or provided to developing countries (UNFCCC 2019). Under the ETF provisions, all countries are required to submit biennial transparency reports (BTRs) and the national GHG inventory, which are subject to a technical expert review and facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress (FMCP). Both the review and FMCP processes allow for independent assessments of a country's progress in implementing its NDC. Furthermore, reporting under Article 9.5 of the Paris Agreement demands information on ex-ante climate finance every two years from developed nations and encourages developing nations to follow suit. These submissions function as formal sources of progressive finance information, making them crucial for planning and enhancing ambition.

C. Global stocktake (GST)

The GST process is one of the fundamental components of the Paris Agreement. It helps nations monitor the implementation of the Paris Agreement and evaluate the collective progress made towards achieving longterm climate goals. The first GST will take place in 2023 and every five years thereafter. It will be based on the best-available science and inform member countries on updating and enhancing their NDCs to achieve their climate objectives.

D. Compliance Committee

Article 15 of the Paris Agreement establishes an expert-based committee to facilitate implementation and promote compliance with the provisions of the Agreement. The committee's mandate is to engage with Parties to identify challenges, share information, and make recommendations, including in relation to accessing finance, technology, and capacity-

building support. The committee acts on circumstances related to assistance requested by countries, non-participation of a country in Paris Agreement processes, and failure to submit reporting obligations or commitments. Paris Agreement has few controls on how its members meet their commitments and are held accountable.

Why accountability is very important under the Paris Agreement?

The Paris Agreement is an exemplary case of international cooperation because it unites almost all the nations of the world to address the critical issue of climate change. The agreement, with its unique architecture, aims to strike a balance between the participation of countries and their commitment. However, the larger question on delivery (actual implementation), enforcement (adherence to climate agreement obligations), and accountability (acceptance of consequences on non-compliance) still remains unaddressed.

Climate action and pledges are inadequate. The latest analysis shows that with collective national climate pledges, we are on track to experience a global temperature rise of 2.7°C – 3.3°C by the end of the century (UNEP, 2021). The pledges also lack critical features such as ensuring timely communication of successive NDCs and alignment with science-based targets. Hence, there is little opportunity for holding countries accountable for their unambitious climate pledges. In addition, NDCs, in principle, are mitigation-centric, because adaptation, loss and damage, and support do not directly fall within their purview. With rising extreme weather events and escalating risks and impacts, NDCs must capture actions and measures across all areas.

Easy exit from the Agreement is a major loophole. The United States, the world's second-largest emitter, did not participate in any pre-2020 climate agreements and also withdrew from the Paris Agreement in 2020 (McGrath, 2020) while joining back in 2021. Such easy exits, in the absence of harsh penalties and punitive actions, not only undermine global climate cooperation and result in additional burden on other nations, but they also discourage other nations from undertaking ambitious targets to move closer to the Paris deal.

Paris Agreement is based on **facilitative, non-intrusive, and non-punitive principles**. Although these principles ensured countries' participation, it can be clearly seen that countries are not subjected to any hard measures.

Furthermore, compliance under the Paris Agreement is limited to procedural obligations – meaning the submission of reports and enhanced commitment – and does not necessarily cover actual outcomes related to the delivery of climate actions (Climate Law and Governance Initiative 2022).

Based on the experiences from the pre-2020 climate regime, as well as the limitations of the Paris Agreement, it is imperative prospects for delivery of climate action, enforcement of obligations, and accountability are slim. The Paris Agreement imposes no hard enforcement measures to hold member countries liable for their inaction and non-compliance with the Paris provisions. This clearly highlights the urgent need to deliberate on strengthening accountability mechanisms, which would ensure compliance with obligations and also translate ambition to real action and delivery.

COP 28 Theme on Agriculture, Food Security and Water- Sharm el-Sheikh joint work on implementation of climate action on agriculture and food security

Author:

Dr. M Asaduzzaman

Former Research Director and Professional Fellow, BIDS

The issues of agriculture, food security and water theme is by and large a follow-up of earlier works related to Koronivia joint work on agriculture. Given the outcome of that so far, it was decided (3/CP.27) on a four year endeavor to thrash out agriculture and food issues called "Sharm el-Sheikh joint work on implementation of climate action on agriculture and food security".

The theme in Dubai COP 28 on December 10 will deliberate on these and related issues. And it calls for action on 20+ issues.

Before getting to the new work programme Sharm-al Sheikh Parties have begun submissions on the issues oaf agriculture and food security. Bangladesh has not explicitly made any submission but allies itself to LDC submission which calls for the following:

- a. A holistic approach emphasizing actions such as development of harmonized and appropriate framework/methodology/guidance that can be used to assess and track adaptation progress at various levels
 - Provide best technology transfer
 - Use of traditional and indigenous technology
 - Enhance cross-sectoral policy coordination
 - Climate smart insurance and other social protection
- b. Provide technical advice and financial mechanism
 - Ensure a dedicated window for funding on agriculture and food security
- c. Research and development
 - Conduct technology needs assessment
 - Integration of indigenous and scientific knowledge
 - Identify and promote national or regional research specific areas

Along with there are suggestions for various administrative arrangements

The LDC submission also called for inclusion of issues such as

- Nature Based Solution in the Context of agriculture sector
- Fisheries, aquaculture, and Blue economy
- Agroecology, climate-Smart Agriculture, and other integrated approaches
- Nutrition in the context of Climate Change

Before getting to the new 4 years work programme, one should very briefly assess the impact of Koronivia Joint work which ran for several years. My own impression is that it yielded precious little as the emphasis was mainly on large livestock-based ranch agriculture. Nothing wrong in that. But it did not look into the a few cattle-owning millions of farmers in countries such as Bangladesh. Bangladesh did submit on this issue but of no avail. It is time

that this issue of small sized cattle owning farmers should be brought into focus because the issues of adaptation in such cases is far more difficult.

The issues under Agriculture, Food and Water theme of COP 28 on December 10 in a way takes account of nature-based actions as well as agro-ecology. However, more importantly, the Theme emphasizes mainly issues of water for agriculture and food security and also the issue of urban water. Also, under another theme, the issues of ocean are discussed.

The Theme issues do not emphasize nutrition (except in a way for children through school meals) while the LDC submission does but this needs fuller expression. Nutrition issues arise due to lower availability due to crop, fisheries and livestock output losses caused by climate change (temperature rise and uncertain rainfall) and climate change related disasters including sea level rise and salinity increase, and also because of a fall in nutritional content of crops such as rice in terms of micro and macro nutrients like as zinc. Iron and protein. The implication is grave for women and children as they become prone to anemia.

The issue of producers and by implication of production have been emphasized Agriculture Theme. But it does not clarify how. Of course there are differentiation among farmers which is not clearly stated. Not all producers are equally or similarly impacted by climate change. Then again, note that availability of food may be from both domestic output and imports. Should there be a provision that food imports should not be banned by countries if another country's domestic output of major staples fall due to climate change impact? This issue seems to have been given little or no thought so far. Also except for some major staples, not much is known about most other crops' vulnerability in terms of output or their nutrition content. Further note that non-food commercial crops are also mainstays in many economies. What happens to production of such non-food crops under climate change is also largely unknown.

On production issue the situation of agricultural labor in many countries may need to be examined. Particularly in a country like Bangladesh where such labor have to work under harsh humid and high temperature situation may make them often sick if the temperature goes above certain threshold. In any case, their productivity is likely to fall and thus they may lose in terms of employment and income. How should their case be treated in adaptation in agriculture?

What all these indicate is the major role that available technology as well as support for R&D should play and the support that is needed on these account may be technological, financial, and others.

On water issue, while the theme is basically right, the issue is more than what has been stated so far. As it calls for methane reduction from crops as well as livestock, the issue of energy for irrigation should also feature importantly in many countries. Lowering energy use and also irrigating land under certain crops only to the extent that science states is absolutely necessary, will of course lower methane emission in cases such as rice cultivation. But where water is sold and bought under certain pricing conditions (as in most cases by area), farmers may not be interested to lower water consumption. One way of doing that is either pricing by volume or under the Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES). Support for research on these issues to incentivize farmers is necessary. However, from Bangladesh point, the issue of water sharing is far more important.

Much of what Bangladesh gets by way of water is from across the border. It drains perhaps water of 92% of catchment area of GBM basin. Yet, despite some talks quite in the past, this issue has not gained much importance. If it is one world, we must give attention to fair sharing of water by lower riparian's when rivers cross several countries. The issue of too much water (flood) particularly is associated with such fair sharing.

The issue of fisheries is tricky and the Agriculture Theme has not addressed it. LDC submission has drawn attention to it. But this needs to be elaborated as not all countries are in the same boat on this. Bangladesh is almost unique as it has a large fresh water open fishery, a large aquaculture system and the marine fishery all of which are under severe threat from climate change though for different reasons. The fresh water fishery is by and large impacted by higher temperature warming up fish habitats. We still do not know much as to which fishes can adapt to higher temperature and which not and how this will change the fish species distribution now and in the future? What should be the nature of adaptation in such cases and what would be the nutritional impact and that on the livelihood of fishermen. Marine fishery is a completely different ball game here.

Ocean warming up, acidification and deoxygenation coupled with algal bloom has already made many fish species extinct in the Bay of Bengal, a clear case of loss to Bangladesh. Yet, we do not know all the pathways of

such loss and damage. We even do not well how soon and how acidification progresses and deoxygenation spreads. What are the limits under 1.5⁰C and 2⁰C or 2.5⁰C situation? This is a clear case for global cooperation in research and necessary adaptation.


My humble submission therefore is that we should emphasize the following issue for consideration under the "Sharm el-Sheikh joint work on implementation of climate action on agriculture and food security".

- a. Clearly identify through scientific processes and deliberations the vulnerabilities of staple and non-staple food crop agriculture under various SSPs and temperature change scenarios and the adaptation mechanisms and their economic and social costs and social group differentiation in terms of output, labour productivity and employment
- b. Clarify nutritional implication through various pathways such as domestic production shortfalls and nutrient contents of crops and their implications by gender and age and appropriate adaptation measures.
- c. Monitor and find out the progression sea water temperature rise, ocean acidification, deoxygenation under various temperature rise scenarios and suggest ameliorative measures. Clarify which marine species are irrevocably lost or will be lost and how the proposed L&D fund may be utilized to help those who would be affected adversely.
- d. For methane emission, find out practical and economic ways of reducing it while lowering water use for irrigation as water itself may be scarcer over time.
- e. Little has been said about inorganic fertilizer use. Particularly find technological and practical means of lowering nitrous oxide emission while keeping crop output the same or non-falling.
- f. The problems of adaptation in small cattle owning farms should be given due attention.

The fair sharing of water between upper and lower riparian countries must get due attention.

Appendix-2

Keynote Presentation




COP28 UAE

THE ROAD TO DUBAI:
EXPERT CONSULTATION ON THEMATIC PROGRAMS OF COP 28

Calendar: November 15, 2023 (Hell)
Clock: 9:00 AM – 02:00 PM
House: Pan Pacific Sonomacon (Summa Hall)

UNITE.ACT.DELIVER.

Presentation By Dr. Munjurul Hannan Khan, ED, NACOM
Organized By:



THEMATIC PROGRAMS OF COP28

- WATER RESOURCE
- ENERGY TRANSITION
- YOUTH AND CHILDREN
- FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
- ACCOUNTABILITY
- EDUCATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING
- FINANCE AND TRADE
- MULTI-LEVEL ACTION
- LOCALLY LED ADAPTATION
- NATURE AND LAND USE
- URBANIZATION AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT
- DISABILITY
- LOSS AND DAMAGE
- GENDER EQUALITY
- INDEGENOUS COMMUNITY
- HEALTH

KEY ISSUES OF COP28

- A ROADMAP FROM THE GLOBAL STOCKTAKE TO ATTAIN THE CLIMATE AMBITION
- 1.5 DEGREE TEMPERATURE REDUCTION TARGET AND MEANINGFUL ACTION PLAN.
- A TIMEBOUND AND MEANINGFUL ACTION PLAN TO PHASE-OUT OF ALL FOSSIL FUELS AND THEIR SUBSIDIES
- COUNTRY-SPECIFIC TIME-BOUND TARGETS FOR RENEWABLES ENERGY GENERATION AND SECURED UNIVERSAL ENERGY ACCESS
- A COMPREHENSIVE FRAMEWORK TO ACHIEVE GLOBAL GOAL ON ADAPTATION
- MOBILISATION OF RESOURCES FOR ADAPTATION FOR BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENCE.
- OPERATIONALISING THE LOSS AND DAMAGE FUND
- CLOSING THE FINANCE GAP TO MOBILISE USD100 BILLION PER YEAR TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

FINANCE AND TRADE

| Situation | Actions Needed |
|--|---|
| Average annual climate finance flows reached almost USD 1.3 trillion in 2021/2022, nearly doubling compared to 2019/2020 levels ¹ . | There should be a significant increase in filling the USD100 billion gaps by developed nations to the Global South and a New Quantified Goal for funding from 2025. |
| Current flows represent about only 1% of global GDP ² . | At least 20% phase-out of fossil fuels and their subsidies by G20 countries and divert those to fill the climate finance gaps including targets for renewables, energy efficiency and energy access ³ . |
| The annual climate finance needed through 2030 increases steadily from \$8.1-\$9 trillion ¹ . | A new mechanism for addressing loss and damage from climate change should be established. |

FINANCE AND TRADE

| Situation | Actions Needed |
|---|---|
| Climate finance must increase by at least five-fold annually, as quickly as possible, to avoid the worst impacts of climate change ¹ . | Doubling Adaptation finance for both Green Climate Fund (GCF) replenishment and the aspirational goals of the Adaptation Fund Board , a significant amount of adaptation money should be directed via GCF, as per decision 1/CP.16 |
| There is a need for a new mechanism for addressing loss and damage from climate change. | Decision on how all finance would be mobilized inconsistent with the NDCs and NAP towards low GHG emissions and climate resilient development towards reaching climate neutrality in 2050. |

ENERGY AND INDUSTRY

| Current Situation | Actions Needed at COP28 |
|--|---|
| Global energy consumption is still heavily reliant on fossil fuels. This is contributing to climate change and air pollution. | Accelerate the transition to clean energy sources. This includes investing in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and clean technologies. |
| The energy industry is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions. This is due to the extraction, processing, and burning of fossil fuels. | Reduce emissions from the energy industry. This includes phasing out coal, investing in methane abatement, and improving energy efficiency. |
| The energy transition is not happening fast enough. The world is not on track to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement. | Increase ambition and accelerate the implementation of climate action plans. This includes setting more ambitious emission reduction targets and taking concrete steps to achieve them. |
| There is a lack of finance for climate action, especially in developing countries. This is hindering the transition to clean energy and adaptation to climate change. | Mobilize finance for climate action. This includes increasing public and private investment in climate-friendly projects and programs. |
| There is a need for international cooperation on climate action. This includes agreeing on common goals, sharing best practices, and providing financial and technical assistance to developing countries. | Strengthen international cooperation on climate action. This includes finalizing the rules for implementing the Paris Agreement and establishing mechanisms for cooperation on climate finance and technology. |

ENERGY TRANSITION

| Situation | What needs to be done in COP28 |
|--|---|
| Comparing estimates for 2023 with the data for 2021, annual clean energy investment has risen much faster than investment in fossil fuels over this period (24% vs 1.5%) . | There should be a significant increase in financial support from developed nations to the Global South for transitioning to renewable energy . |
| Global energy investment in clean energy and in fossil fuels has increased, with anticipated spending in 2023 up to a record USD 2.8 trillion. | The World Energy Outlook 2023 report suggests that COP28 needs to assess the evolving nature of energy security and examine what needs to happen at the conference to keep the door open for the 1.5 °C goal |
| The rise in clean energy investment since 2021 is leading the way, outpacing the increase in fossil fuel investment by almost three-to-one | COP28 needs to develop a plan for a just and inclusive energy transition , considering the social and economic impacts of the transition |

WATER RESOURCE

Existing Situation

- **Global water crisis:** Water scarcity affects over 2 billion people worldwide, and this number is expected to rise to 3.9 billion by 2050.
- **Climate change impacts on water:** Climate change is exacerbating the water crisis by causing more frequent and severe droughts, floods, and other extreme weather events.
- **Limited investment in water security:** Insufficient investment in water infrastructure, technology, and capacity building hinders progress on water security.
- **Insufficient data and information:** Lack of reliable and comprehensive data on water resources and water use hampers effective water management.

Suggestion for COP28

- **Acknowledge the water crisis:** COP28 should formally recognize the severity of the global water crisis and its inextricable link to climate change.
- **Integrate water into climate action plans:** COP28 should ensure that water is fully integrated into all climate action plans and strategies.
- **Increase investment in water security:** COP28 should mobilize and secure substantial financial commitments for water security initiatives, particularly in developing countries.
- **Enhance water data and information:** COP28 should promote the collection, sharing, and utilization of water data and information to support informed decision-making.
- **Action and support to conserve 30 to 50 per cent of land, freshwater and ocean sinks by 2050**

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Existing Situation

- **UNSUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES:** CURRENT AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, DEFORESTATION, AND WATER POLLUTION. THE IPCC IS CLEAR THAT WITHOUT ADDRESSING EMISSIONS FROM FOOD SYSTEMS - IN ADDITION TO RAPID DECARBONIZATION OF ALL OTHER SECTORS - IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO KEEP 1.5°C WITHIN REACH.
- **LOSS OF BIODIVERSITY:** AGRICULTURAL EXPANSION AND INTENSIVE PRACTICES ARE DRIVING THE LOSS OF BIODIVERSITY, WHICH IS ESSENTIAL FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES AND FOOD SECURITY.
- **LIMITED ACCESS TO FINANCE FOR SMALLHOLDER FARMERS:** SMALLHOLDER FARMERS WHO PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE IN GLOBAL FOOD PRODUCTION, OFTEN LACK ACCESS TO CREDIT AND OTHER FINANCIAL SERVICES.
- **TRADITIONAL AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES:** TRADITIONAL AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES SUCH AS FUEL-BASED IRRIGATION, DEFORESTATION AND CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS ADVERSE IMPACTS.

Suggestion for COP28

- **PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE:** ENCOURAGE THE ADOPTION OF CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE, AGROECOLOGY, AND OTHER SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES THAT REDUCE EMISSIONS, PROTECT ECOSYSTEMS, AND CONSERVE WATER RESOURCES.
- **PROTECTING AND RESTORING BIODIVERSITY:** INTEGRATE BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION INTO AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES AND PROMOTE LAND-USE PLANNING THAT SUPPORTS ECOSYSTEM SERVICES.
- **ENHANCING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR SMALLHOLDER FARMERS:** DEVELOP INNOVATIVE FINANCING MECHANISMS AND SUPPORT PROGRAMS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO CAPITAL AND FINANCIAL SERVICES FOR SMALLHOLDER FARMERS.
- **INNOVATIVE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES:** INNOVATIVE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES NEED TO BE EMERGED SUCH AS: SOLAR BASED IRRIGATION, CROP INSURANCE, INNOVATIVE CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE PRACTICES AND TECHNIQUES.

RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION

Existing Situation

- **LIMITED ACCESS TO CLIMATE FINANCE:** DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OFTEN LACK THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO BUILD RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE.
- **CAPACITY GAPS IN RESILIENCE:** MANY COUNTRIES AND COMMUNITIES LACK THE CAPACITY TO PLAN FOR AND IMPLEMENT EFFECTIVE RESILIENCE MEASURES.
- **INEQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF RESILIENCE BENEFITS:** RESILIENCE EFFORTS OFTEN FAIL TO REACH THE MOST VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES, EXACERBATING EXISTING INEQUALITIES.
- **RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION:** ADVANCES IN CLIMATE-RESILIENT TECHNOLOGIES ARE UNDERWAY WITH CONSISTENT POLICY IMPLICATIONS.

Suggestion for COP28

- **SCALING UP CLIMATE FINANCE:** INCREASE THE AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF CLIMATE FINANCE TO SUPPORT ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION EFFORTS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.
- **ESTABLISHMENT OF A FRAMEWORK FOR ACHIEVING THE GLOBAL GOAL ON ADAPTATION.**
- **BUILDING CAPACITY FOR RESILIENCE:** STRENGTHEN INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY AND PROVIDE TRAINING AND SUPPORT TO ENABLE COMMUNITIES AND GOVERNMENTS TO BUILD RESILIENCE.
- **PROMOTING EQUITABLE RESILIENCE:** ENSURE THAT RESILIENCE EFFORTS ARE INCLUSIVE AND ADDRESS THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES.
- **ENFORCE POLICIES:** PROMOTE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOR INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS BY ESTABLISHING MECHANISMS FOR MONITORING AND ENFORCING POLICIES.

LOSS AND DAMAGE

Situation

- **CONSTRAINED FINANCIAL ACCESS TO COPE WITH LOSS AND DAMAGE:** MANY DEVELOPING NATIONS FREQUENTLY FACE CHALLENGES IN SECURING ADEQUATE FUNDS TO MITIGATE THE ADVERSE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE INDUCED LOSS AND DAMAGES.
- **POLITICAL RESISTANCE TO ADDRESSING LOSS AND DAMAGE:** SOME DEVELOPED COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN RESISTANT TO ADDRESSING LOSS AND DAMAGE, ARGUING THAT IT WOULD CREATE A LIABILITY FOR THEM.
- **IGNORING HUMAN RIGHTS IN DRAFT TEXTS AND IMPOSING WORLD BANK AS FUND ENTITY**
- **LACK OF CLARITY ON THE DEFINITION OF LOSS AND DAMAGE:** THERE IS A LACK OF CLARITY ON THE DEFINITION OF LOSS AND DAMAGE, WHICH HAS MADE IT DIFFICULT TO QUANTIFY AND ADDRESS THE ISSUE.

Suggestion for COP28

- **ESTABLISHING A NEW INTERNATIONAL MECHANISM FOR LOSS AND DAMAGE TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO ADDRESS THE ECONOMIC AND NON-ECONOMIC COST OF CLIMATE CHANGE.**
- **PROMOTING POLITICAL DETERMINATION TO TACKLE LOSS AND DAMAGE:** INITIATE ELEVATED POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS AND DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO FOSTER AGREEMENT TO FORMULATE A JUST AND IMPARTIAL RESOLUTION.
- **ESTABLISH LOSS AND DAMAGE FUND TO ENHANCE GLOBAL COLLABORATION AND ASSISTANCE.**

NATURE AND LAND USE

Existing Situation

- **INEQUITABLE ACCESS TO NATURE AND LAND:** ACCESS TO NATURE AND LAND IS OFTEN UNEQUAL, WITH MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES OFTEN HAVING LIMITED ACCESS TO THESE RESOURCES.
- **DEFORESTATION AND LAND DEGRADATION:** DEFORESTATION AND LAND DEGRADATION ARE MAJOR DRIVERS OF BIODIVERSITY LOSS AND CLIMATE CHANGE.
- **LOSS OF ECOSYSTEMS:** ONGOING LOSS OF CRITICAL ECOSYSTEMS SUCH AS WETLANDS AND CORAL REEFS ARE MAJOR ISSUE FOR NATURAL DISRUPTION.

Suggestion for COP28

- **PROMOTING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO NATURE AND LAND:** ENSURE THAT EVERYONE HAS EQUITABLE ACCESS TO NATURE AND LAND, AND THAT THE BENEFITS OF THESE RESOURCES ARE SHARED FAIRLY.
- **PROTECTING FORESTS AND RESTORING DEGRADED LANDS:** SET AMBITIOUS GOALS FOR DEFORESTATION REDUCTION AND LAND RESTORATION AND DEVELOP EFFECTIVE MECHANISMS TO IMPLEMENT THESE GOALS.
- **PRIORITIZE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION:** THE VITAL ECOSYSTEMS ALL OVER THE WORLD NEED TO BE PROTECTED THROUGH PRIORITIZATION, CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION THROUGH EFFECTIVE INITIATIVES AND PUBLIC AWARENESS.

GENDER EQUALITY

Existing Situation

- **UNHEARD VOICES:** WOMEN ARE DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE, YET THEIR VOICES ARE OFTEN ABSENT FROM CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS.
- **INADEQUATE INCORPORATION OF GENDER EQUALITY:** IT HAS NOT BEEN ADEQUATELY INCORPORATED INTO CLIMATE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS. THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCY IN INTEGRATING COMPREHENSIVE AND EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES THAT CATER TO THE DISTINCT NEEDS, ROLES, AND VULNERABILITIES OF INDIVIDUALS ACROSS ALL GENDERS IN THE REALM OF CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVES.
- **INEQUAL CARBON TRANSITION:** WOMEN ARE CONSIDERED AS MOST VULNERABLE TOWARDS CLIMATE CHANGE. IN COUNTRIES CONTRIBUTING LOWEST AMOUNT OF CARBON ARE STILL BEHIND DUE TO LACK OF INEQUITABLE AND EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT WORKERS AND COMMUNITIES THAT WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE TRANSITION.

Suggestion for COP28

- **MEANINGFUL REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN:** ENSURE THAT WOMEN ARE MEANINGFULLY REPRESENTED IN ALL ASPECTS OF COP28, FROM THE PLANNING AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OUTCOMES.
- **GENDER MAINSTREAMING AND PROMOTING CLIMATE FINANCE:** THE COP28 PRESIDENCY COULD WORK WITH PARTIES AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TO PROMOTE GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN CLIMATE FINANCE. THIS COULD BE DONE BY DEVELOPING GUIDELINES FOR GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN CLIMATE FINANCE, AS WELL AS BY PROVIDING TRAINING ON GENDER-RESPONSIVE CLIMATE FINANCE.
- **CARBON TRADING THROUGH WOMEN EMPOWERMENT:** THE TRANSITION TO A LOW-CARBON ECONOMY SHOULD BE JUST AND EQUITABLE, ENSURING THAT NO ONE IS LEFT BEHIND. COP28 SHOULD DEVELOP STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT WORKERS AND COMMUNITIES THAT WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE TRANSITION. IT CAN BE EFFECTIVELY DONE BY USING VULNERABLE WOMEN COMMUNITY AROUND THE WORLD.

EDUCATION SKILLS AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Current Situation

Education systems are increasingly responding to new societal, economic, and digital needs. Schools are on the front line of change, and systems across the OECD are focusing on building capacity for their schools and teachers¹.

High learning poverty hinders more advanced skill development, and youth enter the workforce lacking the skills needed to be productive, resilient, and adaptable².

Teacher shortages, lack of professional development opportunities, low status and working conditions, and lack of capacity to develop teacher leadership, autonomy, and innovation are major challenges³.

An estimated two-thirds of the world's youth fail to achieve the equivalent of PISA minimum proficiency in language and math skills⁴.

Proposed Actions for COP28

The **Greening Education Partnership (GEP) at COP28** aims to share the latest developments on the preparation for COP28 and define possible ways of engagement of the GEP and its members⁵.

The 5th Capacity-building Hub at COP28 seeks to create a platform where the importance of **capacity-building with regard to the Paris Agreement** and its progress is highlighted⁶.

COP28 has partnered to **expand access to climate education for the youth, empowering young people** through education and capacity-building opportunities⁷.

The program's objectives include ensuring proper education for **youth and enhancing their skills, capacity, and knowledge**, particularly in the most impacted countries, to **engage in climate processes**⁸.

YOUTH AND CHILDREN

| Situation | Proposed Actions for COP28 |
|---|--|
| Climate change is the greatest threat facing the world's children and young people ¹ . It poses major threats to their health, nutrition, education, and future. | The COP28 Presidency has launched the 'International Youth Climate Delegate Program' (International YCDP) to ensure young people's perspectives are at the heart of global policymaking on climate change ² . |
| Children and young people are least responsible for climate change, and yet are among the most vulnerable to its effects ³ . | The International YCDP will sponsor 100 young people to attend COP28 in November ² . Delegates from countries on the list of Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Indigenous Peoples and other minority groups around the world will be prioritized ² . |
| Young people are more aware of the climate crisis than older generations, and more engaged in responding to it ⁴ . | The objectives of the International YCDP include ensuring that youth views and proposals are fully integrated into global climate policymaking and dialogues, building youth skills, capacity, knowledge, and networks , particularly in the most impacted countries, to engage in climate processes ² . |
| The most vulnerable youth have the least access and highest barriers to entry ⁵ . | The COP28 Youth Climate Champion, HE Shamma Al Mazrui, in collaboration with YOUNGO, the Official Children and Youth Constituency of the UNFCCC, will oversee the program ² . |
| Youth's role today includes taking on a leading role in influencing, advocating, and demanding for responsible climate behavior ⁶ . | The COP28 Presidency is committed to elevating and aligning youth efforts as key non-state actors under the Paris Agreement and will continue ensuring pathways for meaningful and impactful youth engagement throughout their |

ACCOUNTABILITY

| Existing Global Accountability Scenario | Actions to be Taken on COP'28 |
|--|--|
| Developed Countries have not met the target of disbursing yearly \$100 billion to developing countries after three years after the scheduled date. | Developed countries should meet their global commitments on climate finance and provide specific support for climate adaptation and mitigation measures |
| Shortage of Transparency and Accountability exists in the global negotiation of climate change | COP'28 should ensure Transparency and Accountability and ensure that the voices of the emerging and developing do not lag behind. |
| Problems exist in terms of lack political willingness dealing with climate change among some of the major contributors to carbon emission | COP'28 needs to incorporate political will to manage the climate crisis and to set firm commitments to reduce emissions and ensure the disbursement of climate finance |

MULTI-LEVEL ACTION

| Existing Scenario on Multi-level Action | Actions to be Taken on COP'28 |
|--|---|
| Multi-level action is increasingly being adopted. However, huge shortcomings prevail in terms of achieving Paris Agreement goals | COP'28 should ask for more target oriented and concrete commitments on multilevel action , especially involving the developed nations. |
| Requirement for enhanced coordination and coherence in terms of global governance and local level stakeholders | COP'28 should aim towards the multistakeholder collaboration and platforms to better the multilevel association . |
| Inclusive and equitable participation and sharing of all stakeholders need to be prioritized in multi-level action | COP'28 needs to focus on the vulnerable and developing countries' needs as central part of the discussion on multi-level action |

URBANIZATION AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

| Existing Urbanization and Built Environment Scenario | Actions to be Taken on COP'28 |
|---|---|
| Global urbanization is moving rapidly, with greater than half of the world's total population living currently in cities. | Fast forward the transition towards sustainable and resilient urbanization , with investing in clean energy, energy-efficient buildings, and sustainable transportation . |
| The environment is burdened with a significant share of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. | Prepare and implement policies and action plans to reduce GHG emissions from the built environment , building retrofits, updated construction standards, and the incorporating renewable energy. |
| Cities are mostly vulnerable to climate change, (e.g. sea level rise, extreme heat, and flooding). | Enhance investments in climate adaptation and resilience measures for urban areas , for example, green infrastructure, early warning systems, and disaster management plans. |
| Need for greater coordination between governments, businesses, and civil society to tackle the challenges of climate change and urbanization. | COP28 should give platforms for different stakeholders to join together and develop firm commitments and plans to accelerate the transition toward sustainable and climate resilient environment . |

LOCALLY LED ADAPTATION

| Existing Scenario on Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) | Actions to be Taken on COP'28 |
|--|---|
| LLA still possess underfunding issues. Up to December 2022, only 6 percent of the funding goes to adaptation of LLA. | COP28 must provide a significant rise in finance for LLA . This funding must be accessible and flexible to fulfill the requirements of local communities. |
| LLA is often viewed as separated from other adaptation efforts. Duplication of efforts and missed collaboration opportunities may result from these. | COP28 should promote integrated adaptation, linking LLA with other types of adaptation, such as national and regional plans for adaptation. This will ensure that LLA remains effective and sustainable. |
| LLA is sometimes hampered by lack of capacity and due expertise. Local communities may lack the resources or skill set they must possess to plan and adopt adaptation actions. | COP28 must ensure support for building capacity and technical assistance for LLA . This ensures that local communities can lead adaptation efforts on their own. |

THANK YOU

Appendix-3

Events Photo





ORGANIZERS



COP28 UAE

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