

Young People Leading Climate Action Post 2015 Progress in Bangladesh

Presented at the Conference on
VNR 2020 of Bangladesh: Positioning Non-State Actors
Dhaka: 11 March 2020



Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh

এসডিজি বাস্তবায়নে নাগরিক প্ল্যাটফর্ম, বাংলাদেশ

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Acknowledgement

We would like to register our deep appreciation to Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Convenor, Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh and the team at CPD.

ActionAid Bangladesh has led preparation of this policy note. YouthNet Bangladesh, BADHON Manob Unnayan Sangstha (BMUS), Nari Maitree and Member of CANSA Bangladesh have provided critical support as associate organisations in terms of providing necessary data and information.

We humbly thank the eleven Partner Organisations of the Citizen's Platform - ActionAid Bangladesh, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), HEKS/EPER, Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF), Nagorik Uddyog, Plan International Bangladesh, Save the Children in Bangladesh, Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB), VSO Bangladesh, WaterAid Bangladesh and World Vision Bangladesh - for joining and contributing in this collective endeavor.

Climate and Disaster Context: Global

The world, between 1998 and 2017, suffered

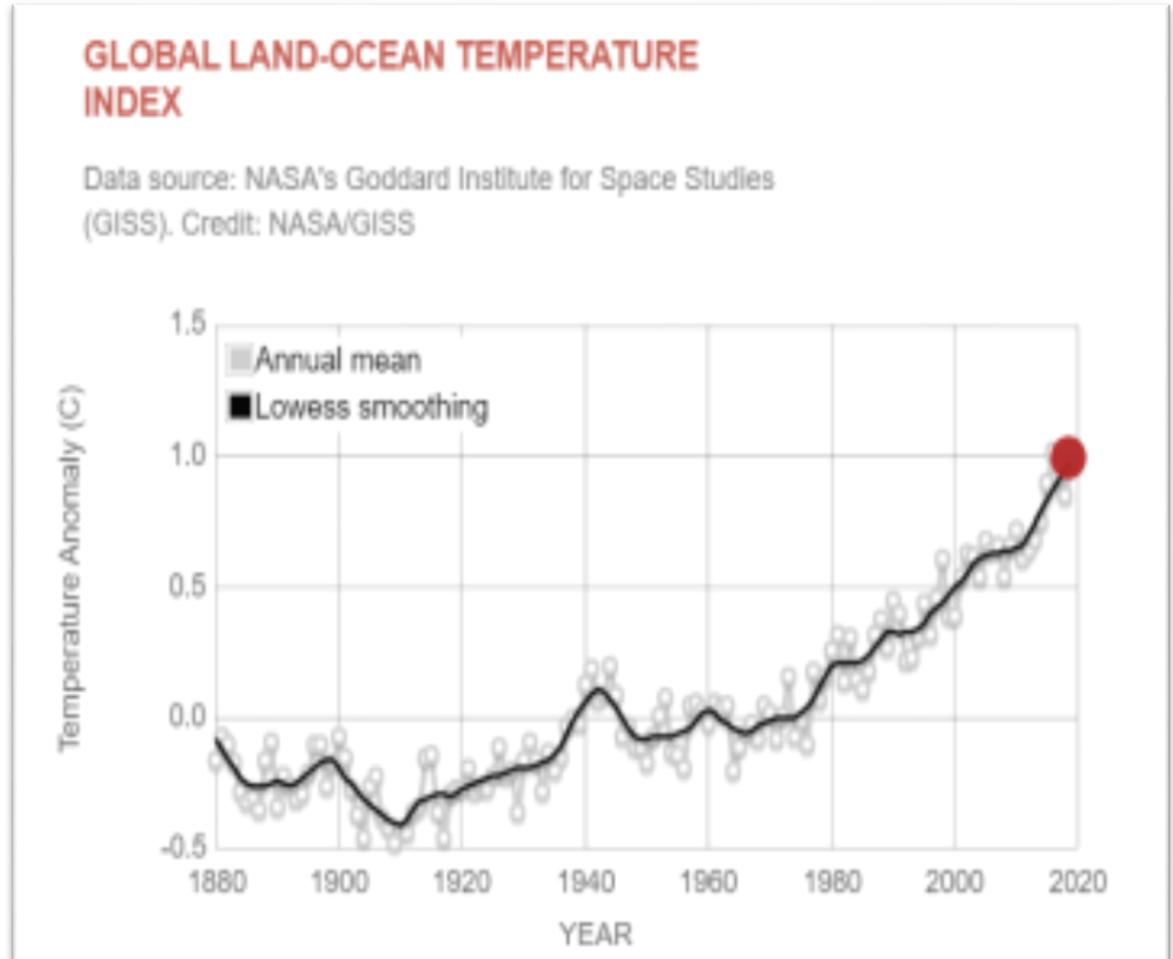
- 4148 floods,
- 2049 storms,
- 563 earthquake,
- 405 extreme weather events,
- 347 droughts and
- some 1000 other disasters such as wildfire and landslide.

Direct economic losses are valued at US\$ 2,908 billion of which climate related disaster caused 77% of the total.

The World Bank has calculated that the real cost to global economy is staggering US\$ 520 billion per annum with disaster pushing 26 million people into poverty every year.

Climate and Disaster Context: Global

- Carbon-dioxide concentration rising to 413 parts per million
- The January 2020 global land and ocean surface temperature was the highest in the 141-year record at 2.05°F (1.14°C) above the 20th century average of 53.6°F (12.0°C) (NOAA)
- If all countries meet their NDC commitments, the world is still likely to warm by a devastating 3°C or more, with a significant likelihood of tipping the global climate system into catastrophic runaway warming



Climate and Disaster Context: Bangladesh

Between 1998-2017, only 7 major climatic events of Bangladesh has been recorded.

- Heavy floods in 1987, 1988, 1998, 2004, 2007 caused Bangladesh an economic loss of \$8.4 billion;
- Cyclone Sidr in 2007 and Aila in 2009 caused \$3.2 billion in losses.

That brings the total losses and damages to \$11.6 billion in that time period.

There is limited information available in terms of impact of the disasters in Bangladesh.

Young People in Climate Context

- Major threat to the health and socio-economic stability of youth—particularly in the global south
 - Regularly face great hurdles to get their voices heard
 - Are not included in decision-making processes
 - Research and practice commonly represent young people as passive victims
- Over 1.8 billion young people in the world,
 - 90 per cent of young people live in developing countries
 - According to Bangladesh Labour Force Survey 2016-17, Youth population aged 15-34 are 53.5 million
 - Every year around 2 million population is increasing in Bangladesh

Key Climate Actions by Young People over past 5 years

- Climate Campaign / Global Climate Strike
- University based innovation / research
- Subnational – national clean up campaigns
- Contribution to research
- Policy dialogue
- Youth led start-ups

Climate and Disaster Context: Bangladesh

The Delta Action Plan 2100

“the Best Gift for the Future Generations by the Present Generation”

- Bangladesh has been ranked as the **5th most vulnerable country in the world** in terms of risks from natural hazards.
- Disasters associated with climate change impacts will increase
- Impact will be on food security, water supply, health and all other major sectors
- Migration will increase

What will be the state of young people in Bangladesh in climate context?

Delta Action Plan 2100 does not indicate what will be state of young people over the decades.

Key Policy Recommendations

- Integrate youth actions in National Youth Policy
- Mainstreaming climate literacy and basic science into the curriculum.
- Finalise concrete action plan for the implementation of Planetary Emergency Declaration of GoB
- Adopt Policies to set up mechanism to address refugees and migration issues.
- Consider climate trajectory and invest in skill development and create green jobs.
- Set up comprehensive climate information cell and data management centers.
- Allocate resources for young people focused actions in upcoming Eight Five Year Plan of Bangladesh
- Adopt alternatives to new project based on fossil fuel
- Introduce pollution tax

Challenges

- Lack of central / sub national information center on climate change and young people
- Private – public political commitment
- Young people are still seen passive actors
- Funding for scaling up young people's innovation to address climate change

This report is based on existing available information online or taking information from different sources / conversations. Therefore, quality of the information can be considered inadequate

Cox's Bazar Climate Strike 2000





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Thank You!

