

National SDG Report (VNR) 2025 Addressing the Concerns of LNOB Communities

Climate Vulnerable Communities and the SDGs *A Citizen's Assessment of Progress and Challenges, and the Way Forward*

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Acknowledgement

Anchor Organisations

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Associate Organisations

ActionAid Bangladesh

BRAC

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COAST Foundation

Concern Worldwide Bangladesh

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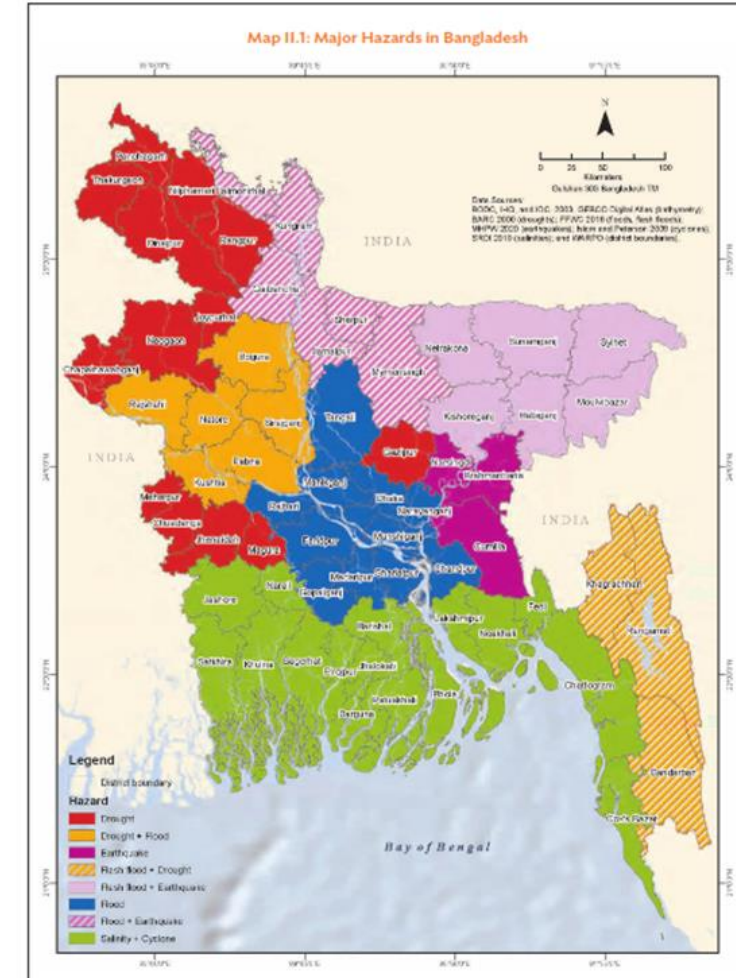
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Context of climate vulnerable group

- Bangladesh is the **7th most climate vulnerable country** in the world.
- **56% of the total population** (90 million) live in areas highly exposed to climate issues.
- **Women, girls, elderly people, persons with disabilities and CC-induced migrants are the most vulnerable & suffer disproportionately**
 - 71% of women experience abuse during climate-induced floods
 - 60% of women faced gender-based violence in disaster affected areas
 - 0.1 million climate-induced migrants including youth leave their homes/year
 - 19 million children are negatively affected (e.g., school drop out) by CC
 - CC is affecting mental health of young & older people (anxiety, depression)



SDG-3: Good health and well-being

Indicators and status

Progress

- Increased life expectancy rate
- Decreased deaths from unsafe WASH

Challenges

- Low rate of immunisations: Among children in Dhaka's slums is 67.5%, compared to the national rate of 82.2%
- Cervical cancer and menstrual problems among women
- Inadequate health services in urban informal settlements
- Increased sufferings of the children and the older people

SDG-3: Good health and well-being (contd.)

Indicators and status

T3.9: Reduce death from CC and pollution

- Increased mortality rates due to air pollution
- Limited measures by public-private entities to green the economy, control pollution

T3.3: CC and fighting vector-borne diseases

- Increased spread of dengue and death in climate vulnerable districts (40 thousand cases out of 80 thousand cases)

T3.4: Promote mental health

- Increased suffering from depression, anxiety & mental health disorders
Moderate to severe anxiety (25.07%), depression (22.48%), stress (49.42%), PTSD (20.03%), and poor sleep quality (43.95%)

SDG-3: Good health and well-being (contd.)

Indicators and status

T3.9: Environmental safeguarding of health

Uncollected waste dumping, Medical Waste Management

- Absence of authentic data
- Lack of technical capacity, training, awareness about env. risk & occupational hazards
- Increased burden on poor, under-aged & climate-migrants in informal settlements

T3.b: Support research & development in addressing health risks associated with CC

- Limited research on sustainable health systems
- Data deficits on infectious diseases
- Limited work on greening the health system
- No measured for early warning to detect climate-induced diseases

SDG-3: Good health and well-being (contd.)

Indicators and status

T3.c: Build capacity of relevant actors

- Insufficient healthcare facilities/infrastructures for vulnerable groups
- Lack of coordination among stakeholders and emergency reliefs during disasters
- Shortage of fund and medical equipment
- Poor skills of community health workers & limited initiatives to build their capacity

T3.d: Enhance systems of early warning and early action

- Non-functionality of early warning system for predicting vector-borne diseases
- Lack of integrated approach to address gender, health & CC intersections
- No mechanisms to disseminate early warning for persons with disability

SDG-5: Gender Equality

Indicators and status

Progress

- Integrating gender perspectives into its CC policies
- Prepared the Gender Action Plan, 2013 (updated in 2024)
- Included the gender-responsive budget in the budgeting system

Challenges

- Lack of women's economic empowerment
- 99% citizens hold at least one bias against women
- Increased CC impact an extra threat to achieving gender equality

SDG-5: Gender Equality (contd.)

Indicators and Status

T5.1: End all forms of discrimination against all women & girls

- Increased rate of girls leaving school in char, haor, and coastal areas
- 42% of working-age women in the labour force earning less than men
- Payment gap is higher in climate vulnerable areas but there is no authentic data

T5.2: Eliminate violence & exploitation against women & girls

- Gender-based violence surged by 65% in Cyclone Amphan-affected areas
- 71% women in climate-vulnerable areas experienced increased abuse during disasters

SDG-5: Gender Equality (contd.)

Indicators and Status

T5.3: Eliminate child, early and forced marriage

- 68% increase during the COVID-19 in 2020 compared to 2019
- About 60% of girls get married before age 18 in coastal areas
- 39% increase in child marriage is recorded after a disaster
- The local administration, in some cases, facilitate child marriage

T5.4: Value unpaid care and promote shared responsibilities

- 60% of women collect drinking water, cooking fuel in disaster-prone areas
- Care-giving work of women is not considered as "work" - CC make it time-consuming
- Women climate migrants, works as domestic aid, are not protected by any laws

SDG-5: Gender Equality (contd.)

Indicators and Status

T5.5: Ensure full participation in leadership & decision-making

- Limited participation of women in leadership and decision-making on CC
- 90% BCCT projects are formulated without consultation with women and their needs
- 2% of 900 projects are allocated for Ministry of Women and Children Affairs
- Limited initiatives to mainstream gender into national and local policies

T5.6: Access to reproductive health and rights

- High rate of child pregnancy in climate-vulnerable areas
- Deficits in research and authentic data on reproductive health of vulnerable groups

SDG-5: Gender Equality (contd.)

Indicators and Status

T5.b: Empowerment of women

- Gender wage gap in Bangladesh is 21%; it is worse within vulnerable groups
- Higher number of women employment in the climate sensitive agricultural sector

T5.c: Adopt & strengthen policies & enforceable legislation for gender equality

- Limited initiatives to expand digital literacy programme focusing vulnerable groups

SDG-8: Economic Growth and Decent Work

Indicators and features

Progress

- Higher economic growth, from 6.12 to 7.10 during 2014-2022
- State & non-state actors provided micro-finance, material supports
- Progress in research & advocacy initiatives to promote decent work

Challenges

- Persistent unemployment- high percentage of young people NEET
- Increased impact of CC on poverty eradication & economic growth

SDG-8: Economic Growth and Decent Work (contd.)

Indicators and Status

T8.1: Sustainable economic growth

- Increased income inequality in urban areas and in informal settlements
- Diminished purchasing power of young people and within climate-vulnerable groups
- Limited effort to creating green jobs and providing sustainable energy services

T8.2: Diversify, innovate & upgrade for economic productivity

- No initiatives for economic diversification
- Lack of initiatives to shift from single source income to multiple sources
- Lack of innovation to promote business models in adaptation sector

SDG-8: Economic Growth and Decent Work (contd.)

Indicators and Status

T8.3: Integrated policy approach for job creation & growing enterprises

- Deficits in aligning employment & env. policies to create & meet green job demand
- Lack of support and incentives for creating green skills, business & economy
- Deficits in supporting green construction, including RE infrastructure

T8.6: Youth employment, education and training

- Increased disruption of education due to CC (30.3 M students impacted in 2024)
- Increased wage unpredictability and structural barriers in climate hotspots
- Limited job opportunities for youth in climate hotspots
- Limited initiatives to support local innovations and SMEs
- Lack of initiatives on employment, education and training support to protect jobs in sectors that are under CC pressure

SDG-8: Economic Growth and Decent Work (contd.)

Indicators and Status

T8.7: Child labour

- 1.78 million are engaged in child labour
- COVID-19, alongside CC, forces children to work under extreme weathers
- During the pandemic, the child labour rate increased by 33%
- Situation is worse within vulnerable groups and areas and there is no credible data

T8.8: Work environment

- Wages volatility in risk area-arbitrary wage setting, lacks transparency, fairness
- Young & women are more susceptible to compromised wages & environment

SDG-14: Life below water

Indicators and features

Progress

- Amended the Bangladesh Ship Recycle Act 2018
- Set a target of compliance with the Hong Kong Convention for safe ship recycling
- Innovation of digital technology for plastic tracking, recycling and management

Challenges

- Increased salinity and ocean acidification
- Pollution and overfishing

SDG-14: Life below water (contd.)

Indicators and Status

T14.1: Reduce marine pollution

- Ranks 6th polluted country in the world for water pollution from plastic & polythene
- Increased pollution from shipbreaking, contributing 20% of marine pollution
- Few initiatives taken to comply with Ship Recycle Act & Hong Kong Convention

T14.2: Protect and restore ecosystems

- The Sundarbans has declined by 6% in the last two decades due to illegal activities
- Declining ecosystem services and livelihood opportunities of vulnerable groups
- Lack of action to prevent industrialisation and violation of environmental laws

SDG-14: Life below water (contd.)

Indicators and Status

T14.4: Sustainable fishing

- Sustainable fisheries stocked in water bodies reduced (0.25% in 2020, 0.24% in 2021)
- Increased damage of fish ecosystem by using illegal nets and toxic for fishing
- Lack of initiative to create alternative livelihoods in vulnerable areas

T14.7: Sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism

- Increased non-accessibility of small fishing communities in water bodies due to leaseholder conflict and reduced livelihood opportunity of vulnerable groups
- Indiscriminate Rohingya settlement in Chattogram – increased damage and pollution of hill, forest and ecosystem to diminish the potential of tourism

SDG-17: Partnerships for goals

Indicators and features

Progress

- Expansion of partnership for climate change
- Increased CSO and Govt. collaboration with LDCs and SIDS for decisions & finance

Challenges

- Limited cooperation between NGOs and private stakeholders on climate action

SDG-17: Partnerships for goals (contd.)

Indicators and features

T17.3: Mobilise financial resources for developing countries

- Lack of integrated effort by Govt. NGOs, CSOs, and donors to access CF
- Insignificant CF mobilised from developed countries
- Deficits in collaboration & engagement of private sector with NGOs and CSOs

T17.9: Enhance SDG capacity in developing countries

- Deficits in technical capacity to implement SDGs
- Only 18% of government agencies possess such capacity

T17.18: Enhance availability of reliable data

- Data gap in tracking the progress of SDGs — 50% SDG indicators cannot be monitored
- Inadequacy of authentic data
- Data manipulation and fabrication in government data

Policy Challenges

- 1. Lack of sufficient climate finance, budget and allocation for vulnerable groups**
- 2. Lack of climate focus in Social Safety Net Programme (SSNP)**
- 3. Gender discrimination in policy implementation**
- 4. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) fund**

Way Forward

- 1. Gender Mainstreaming:** Align and formulate policies to ensure youth and women's access to CF, the decision-making process and its implementation
- 2. Strengthening resilience of vulnerable groups:** Bring youth leadership in international negotiations; Enhance preparedness, forecasting, and response systems, ensuring their timely and proper dissemination to vulnerable groups
- 3. Promoting Inclusive Governance:** Foster inclusive governance by involving vulnerable groups in planning and implementation. Strengthen public-private partnerships, particularly between NGOs and business entities.

Way Forward (Contd.)

4. Developing Sustainable Livelihoods and Economic Opportunities:

Provide green job-oriented training to youth and vulnerable groups and move them away from climate-vulnerable economic sectors. Introduce CSR funds to climate, reduce water pollution, fosters sustainable resource management.

5. Enhancing Health and Social Services: Establish sustainable healthcare services targeting climate-vulnerable groups in urban and rural areas. Prioritise climate-induced health risks of vulnerable groups in primary healthcare systems.

6. Increasing Public Awareness and Global Cooperation: Mainstream climate-related literature in textbooks. Raise awareness among citizens and policymaker groups about the disproportionate impact of CC on vulnerable groups.

Thank You



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