TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL BANGLADESH

Social movement against corruption

Citizen's Review of SDG Progress in Bangladesh: Contribution to VNR Process

Theme: Climate Vulnerability

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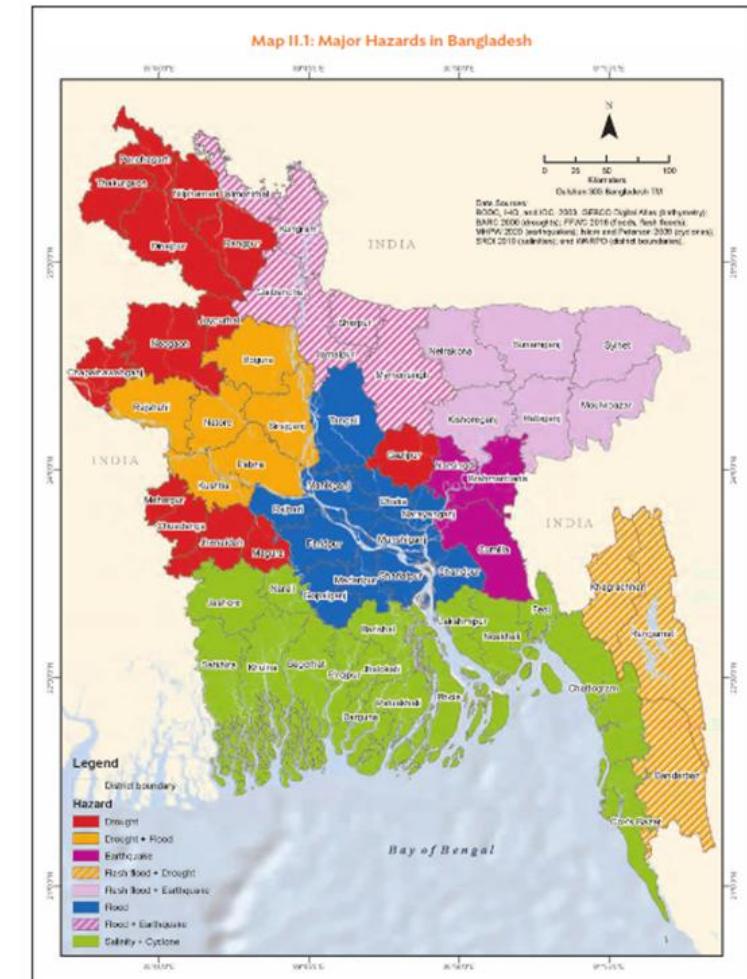| Context |
| --- |
| **Review of SDGs Progress and Challenges**
1. SDG-3: Good health and well-being
2. SDG-5: Gender Equality
3. SDG-8: Economic Growth and Decent Work
4. SDG-14: Life below water
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| **Policy challenges** |
| **Way forward** |

Context of Climate vulnerable group

- Bangladesh is the 7th most climate vulnerable countries in the world. 56% of the total population (90 million) live in high climate exposure areas

- Women, girls, elderly people, Persons with Disabilities and CC induced migrants are the most vulnerable and suffers 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)

Map II.1: Major Hazards in Bangladesh

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

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

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

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-3: 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

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 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

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 is recorded in child marriage after a disasters
- The local administration in some cases, facilitate child marriage

T5.4: Value unpaid care and promote shared responsibilities

- 60% women collects 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

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

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 program 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

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

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 from 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 the sectors that are under CC pressure

SDG-8: Economic Growth and Decent Work

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/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-8: Economic Growth and Decent Work

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-8: Economic Growth and Decent Work

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 conflicts 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-8: Economic Growth and Decent Work

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 mobilizsed 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 the 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 and 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.

4. **Developing Sustainable Livelihoods and Economic Opportunities:** Provide green job-oriented training to youth and vulnerable groups and move away them 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 textbook. Raise awareness among citizens and policymaker groups about the disproportionate impact of CC on vulnerable groups.

Thank You

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- Shushilan
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