



Parliamentarians' Caucus on Migration and Development



PROCEEDINGS:

Pre-COP 27 National Consultations on CLIMATE CHANGE AND HUMAN MOBILITY IN BANGLADESH

Parliamentarians Club, National Parliament Complex, Dhaka, Bangladesh
24 October 2022



BANGLADESH
CENTER FOR
GOVERNANCE AND
DEVELOPMENT

Knowledge is Power
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Estd. 7th April, 1995



Center for Atmospheric Pollution Studies (CAPS), Stamford University Bangladesh



Introduction

In October 2022, the Bangladesh Parliamentarians Caucus On Migration and Development and International Organization for Migration (IOM) Bangladesh jointly organized “Pre-COP 27 National Consultations on Climate Change and Human Mobility in Bangladesh” in collaboration with the WARBE Development Foundation, Secretariat of the Caucus; Bangladesh Center for governance and Development of Dhaka International University and Center for Atmospheric Pollution Studies (CAPS) of Stamford University, Bangladesh. The consultation focused on human mobility and displacement due to climate change, bringing together key stakeholders including distinguished members of parliament, Government of Bangladesh, civil society, academia, private sector, donors and media in order to emphasize the importance of understanding the nexus between these phenomena for future climate change negotiations at global level and to ensure that pertinent advocacy is guaranteed.



Professor Dr. Ahmad Kamruzzaman Majumdar from CAPS moderated the event. Remarks were made by IOM Bangladesh Chief of Mission, Mr. Abdusattor Esoev, UN Resident Coordinator in Bangladesh, Gwyn Lewis and by Chairperson of Bangladesh Parliamentarians' Caucus on Migration and Development, Barrister Shameen Haider Patwary, M.P. The keynote presentation was delivered by Mr. Shahidul Haque, Bangabandhu Chair, Delhi University; Senior Policy advisor, IOM Bangladesh; Professorial Fellow, North South University. Further statements were made by roundtable participants during the open-discussion session.

Climate Change and Human Mobility in Bangladesh



Human mobility are driven not only by social and political events but also by the climatic stressors. Climate change is a reality, and it is causing unprecedented disasters across the globe, which force numerous people and communities to abandon their homes and lands. In the context of climate change, Bangladesh is ranked as the 7th most vulnerable country as it is experiencing a rapid environmental deterioration and frequent natural catastrophes like cyclones, storm surges, coastal flooding, and droughts. These threats significantly induce migration and displacement in Bangladesh since more than 5 million Bangladeshis have been compelled to relocate from the coast to cities in the past decade. In this context, it is important to consider that 20% of Bangladesh's landmass will be underwater by 2050 and consequently, one in seven people are expected to be displaced. Against this background, it is imperative that discussions regarding the climate change- human mobility nexus continue to focus on actions, to provide effective solutions for those who are moving due to climatic hazards.

The National Strategy on Internal displacement Management (2021), Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (2009), Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan (2022-2041) and the 8th Five Year Plan (2020-2025) are some examples of the initiatives undertaken by the Government of Bangladesh in order to tackle climate change and its impacts on the Bangladeshi population. The Sustainable Developments Goals (SDG), the United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreements are also examples of the policy approach agreed by the international community to adopt adequate measures to enhance understanding, cooperation, and coordination.

Recommendations

The consultation produced a list of actions and measures that are recalled below. These recommendations will have an impact on Bangladesh's future capability and options in managing the human mobility in the context of climate change and will provide lessons for other nations vulnerable to climate change.

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|  | Considering the slow progress achieved from COP processes, continue initiatives under different global and regional processes and platforms. |
|  | Establish stronger coalitions and platforms at the national and international level. |
|  | Hold countries with high carbon emission accountable for their contribution to climate change. |
|  | Mainstream climate change in all development partner funded programmes. |
|  | Along with climate finance from external sources, increase national funding on climate change adaptation and mitigation. |
|  | Bridging the gap between policy prescriptions and policy implementation in both national and global level. |
|  | Ensure the operationalization of the recommendation of the Task Force on Displacement. |
|  | Conduct country wide study and assessment to generate data and evidence establishing climate change and human mobility nexus for better policymaking and action in country and advocacy in global forums. |
|  | Strengthen support mechanisms and services for people moving to urban centres. |
|  | Intensify climate-adaptation measures with a particular focus on vulnerable women. |
|  | Increase resettlement interventions and support services for displaced population. |
|  | Increase focus on climate budgeting, climate governance and climate smart infrastructure. |
|  | Advocate to guarantee financial resources to respond efficiently to the displacement caused by climate change. |
|  | Conduct mass-campaigns for awareness raising on climate migration issues. |
|  | Implement climate-related policies in the agricultural sector and other labor-intensive sectors. |

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