

## Abstract

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### Impacts of Climate Change and its vulnerability in Bangladesh: It should be a major policy issue

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Bangladesh is one of the top 10 nations mostly vulnerable to climate change, said Climate Risk Index (CRI), 2011 report. By the end of century, Bangladesh is set to disappear under the waves as mentioned by NASA space agency. IPCC predicted that by 2050, Bangladesh is on course to lose 17% of its land and 30% of its food production and as a result poverty will increase. Country has already begun to feel the effects of the climate change as flood periods become longer and the cyclones, droughts and earth quakes cause greater devastation and adversely affecting the country's agriculture and land, and challenging water resources, occupational dislocations, food, health, energy and urban planning. About 53% of the coastal areas are affected by salinity. Millions of people in northern Bangladesh are threatened by riverbank erosion and severe droughts. Climate change needs top-down flow of information and communications. The communities in the rural areas need to be given information and knowledge about the impacts of drought and matters concerning mitigation of the problem, adaptation of knowledge, and how successful practices can be replicated. This involves limiting construction along low-lying coastal areas, building dykes to protect the coastal areas from flooding, developing new crop varieties which can grow in drier conditions, protecting wildlife and improving water storage to continue farming in drought condition. Only way to enhance the accountability of public administration is if Bangladesh Government should immediately translate its National Environmental Policy into action to benefit the people of this country. Furthermore it needs institutional and financial frameworks, along with a good evidence base and monitoring and evaluation technical skills for evaluating drought mitigation and adaptation policies, paving a practical way forward so that countries evolve sustainably and grow its economy in a way that keeps humanity's footprint within planetary boundaries.

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