

Learning Hub Event (LHE) report 2018

*Easing the Pressure: Development of Climate Resilient Migrant-Friendly Secondary Cities*



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<b>LHE Title:</b>	<b><i>Easing the Pressure: Development of Climate Resilient Migrant-Friendly Secondary Cities</i></b>
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	<i>Saturday, March 31, 2018, 02:00 pm – 04.20 pm</i>
<b>Organizers:</b>	<i>Municipal Association of Bangladesh (MAB), International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB).</i>
<b>Funded by:</b>	<i>USAID</i>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b><i>Secretariat, Bangladesh Urban Forum (BUF), Dhaka</i></b>
<b>Chair:</b>	
<b>Moderator:</b>	<b><i>Dr. Saleemul Huq, Director, ICCCAD</i></b>
<b>Presentation 1:</b>	<b><i>Development of Climate Resilient Migrant-Friendly Secondary Cities</i></b> by <b><i>Sarder Shafiqul Alam, Co-coordinator, ACCCRN and ICCCAD at IUB</i></b>
<b>Author:</b>	<i>Faisal Bin Islam, Researcher, ICCCAD</i>
<b>Photographer:</b>	<i>Tasfiq Mahmood</i>
<b>Photo Album:</b>	<i>Please go to <a href="#">Event photos</a></i>
<b>Editor:</b>	<i>Tasfiq Mahmood</i>

**Participants' List (Arranged as per the registration form)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation/Organization</b>
Ms. Lakohmi Kanta Halder	Executive Engineer
Mr. H M Moniruzzaman	Councilor/Madaripur Pourashava
Ms. Sayda Salma	Panel Mayor/Madaripur Pourashava
Mr. Razay	Councilor/Sariotpur
Mr. Md. Badruzzaman	Secretary
Mr. Md. Nasir Uddin	Secretary
Mr. A. N. M. Gius Uddin	Asst. Engineer
Mr. Md. Mostaque Ahmed Talukder	Secretary/Sonaimuri Pourashava
Ms. Nowshin Ahmed	Secretary
Mr. Md. Bazlur Rahman	Secretary/Singair Pourashava
Mr. Sagar Saha	P.A / Mayor, Savar
Mr. Monir Hosain	P.A / Mayor
Mr. Rakib Hassan	GCR Coordinator CPD
Ms. Shamima Akter	Town Planner/Dhamrai Pourashava
Ms. Chandana Rani Sarkar	Secretary/Dhamrai Pourashava
Ms. Sanzida Sharmin	Councilor/Savar
Mr. Md. Tajel Hossain Hawlader	Secretary/Ghorashal Pourashava
Mr. Hazi Md. Nazrul Ahi	Savar Municipality
Mr. Md. Noora Alam Siddique	Councilor
Ms. Nigar Sultana	Town Planner/Tarabo Municipality
Ms. Azmiri Khatun	SDO/Tarabo Municipality
Mr. Md. Fakrul Islam	Secretary/Dabidaar Pourashava
Mr. Khosru Khan	Councilor
Ms. Sabrina Ahmed	AGM/BASA
Mr. Md. Rafiqul Islam	MAB/Mayor
Mr. Hazi Md. Abdul Gani	Mayor/Savar Pourashava
Mr. Nazrul Islam Khan	Mayor/Nettrokona
Mr. Quazi Mustafa Kamal	Secretary/Madabdi Pourashava
Mr. Md. Rafiqul Islam	Asst. Engineer
Mr. Md. Arshed Ali Biswas	Panel Mayor/Manik Ganj Pourashava
Mr. Mostafa Quaium Khan	Adviser/BUF
Mr. S. M. Abdur Rauf	MAB
Mr. Md. Addul Baten	President/MAB
Mr. Md. Abdus Satter	Guest
Mr. Md. Shajahan Kabir	AE/Muktagaeha Pourashava
Mr. S. K. Monjur Hossain	AE/Mirzaour Pourashava
Mr. Md. Sabuj Hossain	SAE/Kalihati Pourashava

<b>Mr. Babul Hossain</b>	SAE/Mirzapur Pourashava
<b>Mr. Ashfaqur Rahman</b>	SPO/SEEDS Asia, Jica
<b>Dr. Saleemul Huq</b>	Director/ICCCAD
<b>Mr. Bodrud-Doza</b>	ICCCAD
<b>Mr. Faisal Bin Islam</b>	ICCCAD
<b>Mr. Md. Hafizur Rahman</b>	ICCCAD
<b>Mr. Syed Tasfiq Mahmood</b>	ICCCAD
<b>Mr. Saqib Huq</b>	ICCCAD
<b>Mr. Sarder Shafiqul Alam</b>	ICCCAD

Event Agenda:

Time	Activities	Responsible Person
1pm to 2:00pm	Registration and Lunch	ICCCAD Team
2:00pm to 2:20pm	<i>Introductory Remarks and Setting the Tone</i>	Dr. Saleemul Huq, Director, ICCCAD
2:20pm to 3:10pm	<i>Presentation</i> <i>Development of climate resilient and migrant-friendly secondary cities</i>	Sarder Shafiqul Alam Coordinator, Urban Climate Change Programme & Country Coordinator, ACCCRN-ICCCAD Bangladesh
3:10pm to 4pm	Question-answer & open discussion	All Participants
4pm to 4:20pm	Closing Speech	Dr. Saleemul Huq

## Report on Learning Hub Event On *Easing the Pressure: Development of Climate Resilient Migrant-Friendly Secondary Cities*

### Main Outcomes

- **Participants including the mayors, secretary, town planners and engineers are informed about the urgency to build climate resilient, migrant friendly secondary cities**

On 31st March, 2018, The Municipal Association of Bangladesh-MAB; USAID; and the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) co-organised a Learning Hub event (LHE) on “Easing the Pressure: Development of Climate Resilient Migrant-Friendly Secondary Cities”. The LHE held at the Secretariat of BUF and was attended by a mixed group of mayors, secretaries of municipality, engineers, planners and slum development officers to set up a platform for sharing views and ideas about the present urban development context with a focus on urban resilience in secondary cities.

The LHE was designed to inform the municipal mayors and official about SDGs, New Urban Agenda and how these can be mainstreamed to develop climate resilient migrant friendly cities and municipalities. With this understanding they will not only be able to takes necessary steps to undertake local action plans, also can have an impact on policy level in future.

### i. Summary of the Discussions

Mustafa Quaium Khan, Advisor, BUF gave his introductory speech at the beginning of the LHE. He welcomed all the participants of the LHE. He showed his concern about the changing climate and its impacts on urban environment. He encouraged the participants to generate ideas through open discussion and come to a consensus about the future of secondary cities and municipalities.

Dr. Saleemul Huq, Director of ICCAD briefly described the work area of ICCAD. He showed his concern iterating a World Bank Report on Migration which projects mass migration of population in Latin America, Africa and South Asia. An estimated 140 million people will be displaced by natural hazards worldwide, and Bangladesh is among the hotspot regions. It is a challenge for the municipalities to make their urban centres climate resilient and migrant friendly. He invited all the participants to actively participate in an open discussion session.



Mr. Khan is giving an opening remark

The keynote presentation by Sarder Shafiqul Alam, Coordinator, ICCAD on “Development of Climate Resilient Migrant Friendly Secondary Cities”. Before going to the presentation, he briefly described the story behind the idea of making secondary cities climate resilient and migrant friendly. He gave definition of a resilient city, and emphasised that urban areas are susceptible to climate change hazards

and most likely to get more vulnerable in the coming future. On the other hand, rural people are migrating to urban areas losing their land and income opportunity due to climate change impacts. The rate of rural to urban migration is going to increase in the future. Major cities like Dhaka and Chittagong are already at their threshold level. There, we need to build secondary cities climate resilient and migrant friendly, with necessary industry and services to attract people from climate affected rural areas.

He briefly described the SDGs, New Urban Agenda, and opportunity for Partnership and Capacity Building to make cities resilient to climate change. ICCCAD can provide their expertise on capacity building in both local and national level to enhance the capacity of urban stakeholders.



Mr. Alam, presenting at the LHE

He described some ways forward such as decentralization of economic hubs; multi-stakeholder collaboration and risk informed urban planning at the concluding of the presentation.

Mr. Abdul Baten, President of MAB gave a short speech before the open discussion session. He addressed the risk sensitive land use planning, mass education, sustainable and inclusive urban development to tackle the climate change impacts. He praised the resilience of the people of Bangladesh not only affected by climate change, but also through their history, independence and constant struggle to make a better future.

### **Open discussion**

Secretary of Savar Municipality gave his opinion to implement an effective solid waste management for Savar municipality as well as all other municipalities to make the environment clean and healthy.

Panel Mayor, Manikganj Paurashava showed his concern about the riverbank erosion, encroachment of waterbodies and unplanned urban development. He emphasised on planning secondary urban centres with necessary service provision to make them self-sufficient.

Town Planner from Tarabo Municipality stressed her concern on unplanned industries which are rapidly growing inside the secondary cities polluting the urban environment. We need mass housing for poor to make cities inclusive. The Government should give more power to local government to impose more regulations and control.

One of the participants questioned Dr Saleemul Huq to find the remedy of these problems.

One of the representatives from NGOs emphasized on the vertical structural development of cities instead of horizontal development. He stressed on the capacity building of local people to make them aware of climate change impacts and adaptation. Community bonding and social interaction should be

enhanced within the urban centres to make people more attached to their environment and surroundings.



Participants taking part in open discussion

Another participant gave her opinion about the problems faced by people every day in major cities like Dhaka and suggested making surrounding cities developed and climate resilient where people can work and live in a peaceful manner.

The Vice president of MAB showed his concern about the encroachment of rivers, canals and water bodies and stressed the urgent need to capacitate local authorities to impose more control for planned development.

At the end of the open discussion session, Dr Saleemul Huq briefly described the LHE, Climate Change in Bangladesh's perspective. He urged the participants to think about the future scenario of our cities and how we can provide our next generation with a sustainable future. He also emphasised on behavioural and cultural change in the mind-set of people to keep their environment clean and make their cities planned as well.

At the concluding of the LHE, he described SDG 13 and Paris Agreement to tackle climate change globally. He later emphasised on climate change adaptation for countries like Bangladesh to successfully tackle the adverse impacts of climate change. He concluded the event with a note of thanks to all the participants.

### **Takeaway messages from the Event**

The major cities of Bangladesh like Dhaka and Chittagong cannot cope up with the increasing population pressure due to climate induced rural to urban migration. Thereby, it is necessary to develop a set of secondary cities with appropriate industries and services, which can not only attract the displaced population with income opportunity and better living condition, but also be made climate resilient to successfully overcome the adverse impacts of climate change.