

Learning Hub Event (LHE) report 2018

***International Policy Landscape and Global Landscape of Climate Finance and Bangladesh Context***



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<b>LHE Title:</b>	<b><i>International Policy Landscape and Global Landscape of Climate Finance and Bangladesh Context</i></b>
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	<i>Tuesday, March 27, 2018, 02:30 pm – 04.00 pm</i>
<b>Organizers:</b>	<i>University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB), International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB).</i>
<b>Funded by:</b>	<i>USAID</i>
<b>Venue:</b> <b>Moderator:</b>	<b><i>Seminar Room 2, ULAB, Dhaka</i></b> <b><i>Associate Professor Samiya Ahmed Selim, PhD;</i></b> <b><i>Director of Centre for Sustainable Development</i></b> <b><i>University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB)</i></b>
<b>Presentation 1:</b>	<b><i>International Policy Landscape</i></b> by <b><i>Saqib Huq</i></b> , Co-coordinator, Climate Finance Programme, ICCCAD
<b>Presentation 2:</b>	<b><i>Global Landscape of Climate Finance and Bangladesh Context</i></b> By <b><i>Yusuf Mahid</i></b> , Coordinator, Policy Support Programme, ICCCAD
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<b>Photographer:</b>	<b><i>Noor Elahi</i></b>
<b>Photo Album:</b>	<b><i>Please go to <a href="#">Event photos</a></i></b>
<b>Editor:</b>	<b><i>Yusuf Mahid and Tasfiq Mahmood</i></b>

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**Event Agenda:**

Time	Activities	Responsible Person
2:15pm to 2:30pm	Registration	ICCCAD Team
2:30pm to 2: 40pm	<i>Introductory remarks and setting the tone</i>	Associate Professor Samiya Ahmed Selim, <b>PhD</b> ; <b>Director of Centre for Sustainable Development University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB)</b>
2:40pm to 3:30pm	<b>Presentation:</b>  <i>Climate Policy and Finance: National and global perspective</i>	Mr. Yousuf Mahid, <b>Coordinator, Policy Support Programme</b>  &  Mr. Saqib Huq, <b>Coordinator, Climate Finance Programme</b>
3:30pm to 3: 50pm	Open discussion and question-answer session	All Participants
3:50pm to 4pm	Closing Speech	Saqib Huq and Yousuf Mahid
4pm	Refreshment	ICCCAD Team

## Report on Learning Hub Event On *International Policy Landscape and Global Landscape of Climate Finance and Bangladesh Context*

### Main Outcomes

- To strengthen the understanding of climate finance and policy landscape.
- To capacitate youth for doing climate change advocacy and knowledge dissemination.
- To strengthen the youth with the knowledge of different climate funds and train them to write proposal in future.

On 27th March, 2018, The University of Liberal Art Bangladesh (ULAB); USAID; and the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) co-organised a Learning Hub event (LHE) on “International Policy Landscape and Global Landscape of Climate Finance and Bangladesh Context”. The LHE held at the ULAB premises and was attended by a mixed group of students and faculties to set up a platform for sharing views and ideas about the international policy situation on climate change, the basic framework of climate finance world wise and Bangladesh context.

The LHE was designed to encourage the young generation to get a idea about of climate change; its status on global world, different modes of financing it. With this understanding they will be not only be able to takes necessary steps to fight climate change, also can have an impact on policy level in future.

### i. Summary of the Discussions

The first presentation on International Policy Landscape was done by Mr. Saqib Huq who focused on the international policies, frameworks available for climate change. To control the effect of climate change, UNFCCC has two guiding principles. First one is- polluters pay principle, that is a polluter has to pay for the damage done by him. Though many countries still don't want to take the responsibility but in many cases different laws have been made to reduce industrial emission. Second one is- common but differentiated responsibility. Everyone has the common goal is reducing carbon emission but has differentiated responsibilities since every country don't do same amount of emission. So it is necessary to identify what a country can be alone and what with the assistance of other countries. UNFCCC does all its work in three phases- mitigation, adaptation and loss and damage. Among them the mitigation and adaptation part is more or less established but the loss and damage part is still under consideration. Everyone is concerned about the sea level rise, irregular weather pattern but no one is thinking about what people do when they have to leave their culture.



Participants at the LHE with ULAB

Conference of Parties (COP) under UNFCCC is a very good platform for negotiation and convincing people. The main purpose of bringing a huge number of people from different groups' like- the suffering countries and the polluting countries is to raise the problem. Although very few representatives from different countries attend the event but they have a big network of support system back in their country, following COP.

COP's can be of two types- one for professional like researchers, economists, lawyers, environmentalists etc. and another one is for the political decision makers like mayors, ambassadors, secretaries, kings etc. the Handbook on Paris Agreement is like a bible for the people working in this sector. It is useful for understanding jargons, understanding the language of international treaties and for engaging with UNFCCC.

Negotiations with UNFCCC are done on groups since individual negotiations are not that effective. Financial and technical assistance are easy to give in groups.



Saqib Huq during his presentation

When national plans of Bangladesh on climate change are concerned, it has some plans like National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA), National Adaptation Plan (NAP), and Community Adaptation Plans of Action (CAPA) etc. Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP) (2009-2018) and Nationally Determined Contribution (2015) are more prioritized. The NDC is still in the drafting stage. Bangladesh is drafting medium to long term plans to achieve SDG's. It also has a new perspective visioning 40-41.

The second presentation on "Global landscape of climate finance and Bangladesh context " was presented by Yousuf Mahid with a view to giving a general understanding of climate finance and Bangladesh context to the audiences. The session was started by asking what climate finance is. In response people said the aid Bangladesh gets from other countries because of being least developed country. But the actual understanding is a bit more specific- any finance that address adaptation and mitigation is called climate finance. It has 3 aspects- should be new and additional than aid, should be part of ODA, and should increase in expenditure on climate actions on 2009.



Yousuf Mahid during the presentation

This finance can come from 4 sources- bilateral institutions like direct transfer from different countries, multilateral institutions, private source and national climate funds. The multilateral support can again be of two types- UNFCCC and Non-UNFCCC. Non-UNFCCC are major mitigation funds. When the receipts from the funds have been compared it is seen that Bangladesh received 8.7 million dollar from

mitigation fund and 120 million dollar for adaptation. Since emission is very less in our country so mitigation is not our priority.

GCF is a financial mechanism under UNFCCC to help developing countries respond to climate change. Fifty percent of it goes for LDC's and small island countries. From getting access to GCF countries need to go through a process. First they have to select a permanent NDA- national designated authority. ERD- Economic Relation Division of Ministry of Finance is the NDA for Bangladesh. For submitting proposal accreditation is needed from National Accrediting Entity and Multilateral Accrediting Entity. For Bangladesh IDCOL and PKSF are the NIE's.

Though Bangladesh has recently become developing country from LDC, but it is still a climate change vulnerable country and eligible for getting GCF fund. GCF has grant, loan, equity and guaranty. These tools can be changed depending on type of vulnerabilities. Under GCF 4 types of projects get approved- micro, small, medium, and large. IDCOL has the provision of using loan instrument and PKSF can use grant. After submitting proposals, they are evaluated according to national priority and investment criteria. Impact, paradigm shift, Sustainable development, country ownership, efficiency and effectiveness, and needs of the recipients are the criteria for evaluation of proposals. GCF has so far approved 76 projects which are worth of 1.3 million tons of CO2 reduction.

Role of NDA is to oversight the whole process, nominate any agency to become NIE. They are country representatives. NIE, MIE- report back to GCF. They can also develop project proposal. Bangladesh has so far got 3 projects funded by GCF for enhancing adaptive capacities of coastal communities where kfw is MIE and LGED is EE.

### **Question-Answer Session**

After the sessions the students asked what they can do as a student, how they can be benefited from climate funds and how can they access the information regarding GCF.

In response to the questions the speakers replied that, students can start advocacy from their level through activism and outreach. They can get information regarding different funds from the websites and ICCCAD can also be of good help in this regard since it work focuses on these issues.

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

Bangladesh in spite of being one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change; have been successful in doing adaptation and mitigation. But the problem still lies in the fact that, the mass population are still unaware of what climate finance is, what are different sources of finance and how to get them. So if the young generation can be taught with all the knowledge of climate finance and related policy support, they in future can bring more success in tackling climate change.