

Upcoming Events:

- GFDR Workshop, 27-29 November, Mumbai
- Development Programme Meeting: Presentation on Disaster Management and Climate Change, 19 November

Links to Media / Academic Articles

- Linking Climate Change to Disaster Management (in Bangladesh) by Ms Shireen K Sayeed in UNDP's Inside Asia Pacific quarterly e-bulletin: http://www.undprcc.lk/rcc_web_bulletin/Issue2/country_Bangladesh.shtml
- Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the resilience of nations & communities to disasters: <http://www.unisdr.org/en/hfa/hfa.htm>
- Bangladesh Grameen Shakti is a nominee in the 2007 Right Livelihood Awards for bringing sustainable light and power to thousands of Bangladeshi villages, promoting health, education and productivity: <http://www.rightlivelihood.org/>

Climate Change: A Global Challenge

Dhaka seeks International aid to address climate change

UNB, New York

Bangladesh has urged the international community to support Bangladesh in addressing climate change.

Bangladesh Permanent Representative to the United Nations (UN) Ismat Jahan made the call on 30 October 2007 while addressing the Economic and Financial Committee of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on the agenda item 'protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind.'

Ambassador Ismat Jahan said the phenomenon of climate change was no longer a conjecture, and many countries, including Bangladesh, have been encountering change of weather patterns such as devastating floods, cyclones, drought and storm surges.

"The climate change is impeding the efforts of the least developed countries in achieving the United Nations Millennium Development Goals."

Dhaka fighting climate change

UNB, Dhaka

Drawing attention of the international community to adverse impact of climate change on Bangladesh, President Iajuddin Ahmed has said efforts are on to combat and overcome the challenges posed by the changing climate.

"The Government of Bangladesh is

She expressed the concern that an irreversible climatic shift would displace millions of people worldwide. **"A one meter sea-level rise will submerge about one-third of the total area of Bangladesh, which will uproot 25-30 million people of Bangladesh. These people will become refugees of climate change."**

Bangladesh permanent representative to UN also called upon all countries to recognise their responsibilities towards the refugees of climate change and stressed that the post-Kyoto regime should grant the legal rights required to provide for their recovery and rehabilitation.

She also expressed concern over the lack of urgency in tackling greenhouse gas emissions during most of the past two decades. She underscored that an effective response to climate change challenges required striking a balance between mitigation and adaptation.

Ambassador Ismat Jahan also urged all major greenhouse gas emitters to significantly reduce the emissions to stabilise the atmosphere.

trying to combat and overcome challenges posed by climate change, particularly the threat rising sea level and atmospheric temperature and natural disaster in the form of floods, cyclones, storm surges and drought," he said in a speech at Ohio State University.

Read more [here](#)

Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management

On 8 October 2007, the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) directed that all Development Project Proposals (DPP) and working papers for the ECNEC must now include information on "lessons learnt" from previous projects, in addition to providing information on risk

identification and mitigation.

This announcement contributes to one of the Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme's (CDMP) key objectives, which is to mainstreaming disaster management, risk identification and mitigation into relevant areas of government.

"The most widespread risk to settlements from climate change is flooding and landslides driven by projected increase in rainfall intensity and in coastal areas, sea level rise"

International Panel on Climate Change

Key Websites

Disaster Management Cluster

<http://www.undp.org.bd/cluster.php?d=10>

CDMP

<http://www.cdmp.org.bd>

Latest Situation Reports

http://www.cdmp.org.bd/Situation_report.html

Local Consultative Groups

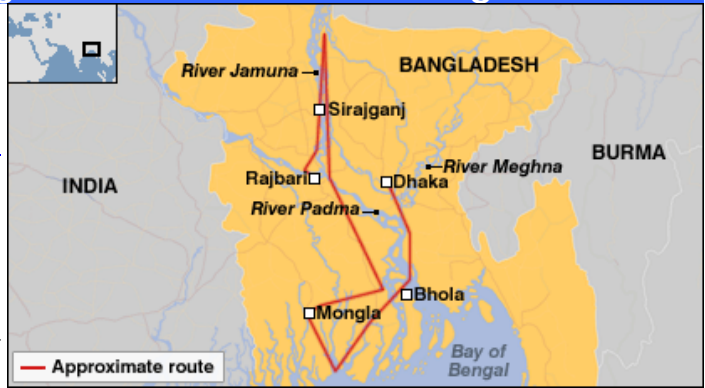
<http://www.lcgbangladesh.org/>

Relief Web

<http://www.reliefweb.int>

Nodi Pothe Bangladesh: The Climate Change Debate

On 29 October 2007, the BBC World Service launched a climate change project called [Nodi Pothe Bangladesh](#) (Bangladesh by the River). This will see a boat travel the length of Bangladesh for a month to witness first hand the effects, and potential impact, of climate change.



The project is aimed at tracking and discussing climate change with local communities and finding out what significance climate change is having on them.

In addition to this, the boat will carry journalists from around the world, with academics and experts joining

the trip to promote wider discussion on climate change and its current and future impacts on Bangladesh and the world.

The Nodi Pothe Bangladesh team are maintaining a daily blog which can be viewed [here](#).

Feedback

Your feedback is welcomed, please email any comments, suggestions or thoughts to:

dmc.bd@undp.org

Climate Change & Tourism

The second International Conference on Climate Change and Tourism was held in the begin of October in Davos, Switzerland.

Over 100 countries attend the meeting to discuss the impact of global warming on their livelihoods. The role of tourism in economic development and poverty alleviation in developing countries was highlighted, as was the need to institute mitigation strategies,

both in terms of livelihood diversification and disaster management.

The United Nations World Tourism Organization's (UNWTO) Summary of the Technical Report on Climate Change & Tourism can be viewed [here](#).

Media articles by the [International Herald Tribune](#) and [The Daily Star](#) provide further commentary.

Disclaimer:

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily represent the view and opinion of the UNDP, Bangladesh.

Food Miles or Poverty Eradication?

The Oxford Institute for Energy Studies & the Oxford Climate Policy recently released a paper by Dr Benito Müller on food miles and the discourse between the carbon emissions attached to products grown abroad and the economic benefit poor countries receive from these products:

[Food Miles or Poverty Eradication? The moral duty to eat African strawberries at Christmas](#)

In his latest Energy and Environment Comment, Dr Benito Müller looks at the recent controversy about discouraging

consumers particularly in the UK from buying produce of least developed countries because of their 'food miles', i.e. the transport carbon emissions (especially from air freight), and the effect that such an environmental consumer boycott has on the efforts to eradicate poverty in these countries. He proposes a solution to the dilemma which offers a 'double development dividend', not only in terms of clean exports, but also in promoting much needed CDM activities in these poorest and most vulnerable countries.

Disaster Management Cluster



UNDP (Level 7), IDB Bhaban
Phone: (880-2) 811-8600
Fax: (880-2) 811-3196
E-mail: dmc.bd@undp.org