

**Goal of Approach:**

**Reducing loss and damage associated with weather and climate extremes through climate risk management (CRM) initiatives**

**Input provided by: Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)**

**Main elements of the implementation strategy**

Climate Forecast Application (CFA) was one of the most successful climate risk management (CRM) initiatives adopted by ADPC since 2003/2004. This was implemented in Indonesia and the Philippines for agriculture and water management applications respectively and later in Bangladesh for strengthening riverine flood forecasting system. CFA addresses both the slow and rapid onset extremes namely, droughts, heavy rains, floods, etc.

CFA in Indonesia and the Philippines was basically to introduce seasonal weather forecast information applications in agriculture and water sectors for alarming anticipated droughts and heavy rain spells and thereby taking proactive adaptive measures to reduce disaster risks in both the sectors. Climate Field School concept was introduced under this initiative, which helped to build the capacity of national level agriculture extension officers / water managers who have then trained District level agriculture officers / water managers and then farmers and other stakeholders at the grass route level. The project implemented in Bangladesh {Climate Forecast Applications in Bangladesh (CFAB)} was basically at national level or upstream level effort to increase the lead time of flood forecasting in Gangi and Brahmaputra rivers with Bangladesh Water Development Board. This project was dealt with national level institutes as well as sub-national level institutes to make the effort more sustainable. This was introduced with the existing policy frameworks in the countries.

**Targeted beneficiaries**

As mentioned beneficiaries of CFA initiatives are national, sub-national and local level stakeholders (national level agriculture officers / water managers, district level agriculture officers, farmers, etc.)

**Any significant lessons learned**

Climate Field School concept has been very effective as the project implementers have been constantly engaged with stakeholders throughout the project period. Seasonal forecast information is very much essential for the selected sectors (agriculture and water) to have effective impact of such initiatives.

**Resource requirements**

Reliable seasonal forecast information should be readily made available on real time basis in order to educate them and to convince them how importance of the scientific information for their decision making to reduce disaster risks associated with impending extreme weather events. Sufficient funds should be available to implement this type of project as it involves national, sub-national and local level stakeholders.

**Potential for replication or scaling-up**

It is very much timely important for replicating this type of projects in other vulnerable countries in the region. For an example, at present, few South Asian countries are experiencing drought condition due to frailer of southwest monsoon rainfall. The countries are now looking for strengthening their seasonal forecasting systems with last mile end-to-end early warning systems. Therefore, there is a great potential to replicate this approach and scaling-up to other areas in the region and also within the implemented countries.

**Any additional information**

In addition to CFA projects, ADPC has been implementing projects to strengthen existing end-to-end early warning systems for floods, storm surges, etc, which have also contributed to reduce disaster risks and associated loss and damages.