

Integrating practices, tools and systems for climate risk assessment and management and DRR strategies into national policies and programmes

10-12 March, 2009  
Havana, Cuba

## Experiences of Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS)



Mozaharul Alam  
Research Fellow, BCAS



# Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies

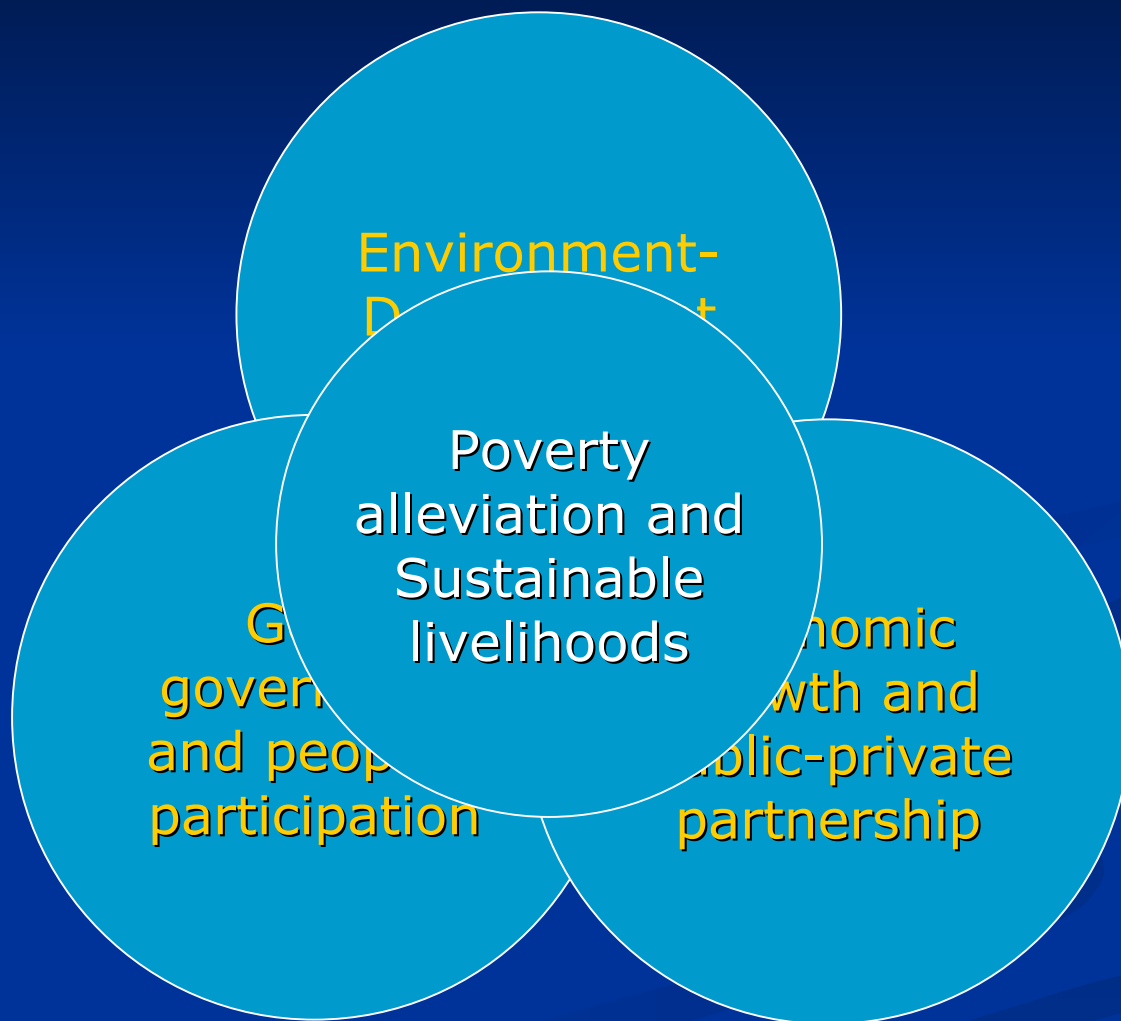
An independent,  
research,  
implementation and  
policy institute for  
**sustainable  
development**



Established in 1986 with a vision to  
promote **people-centred,**  
**environmentally sound and socially**  
**just development**



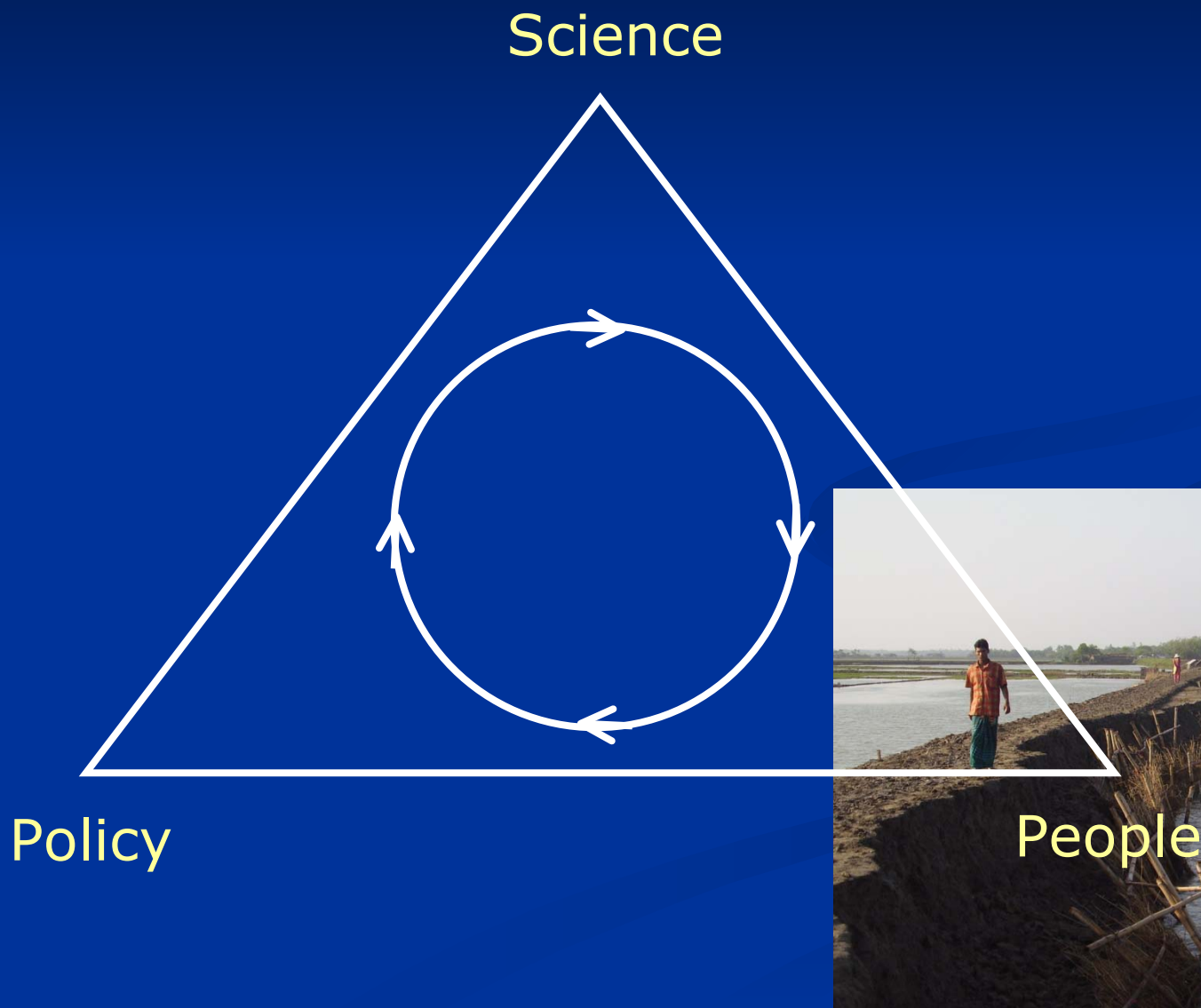
# Thematic Areas of BCAS: Advancing Sustainable Development



# Means for Advancing Sustainable Development

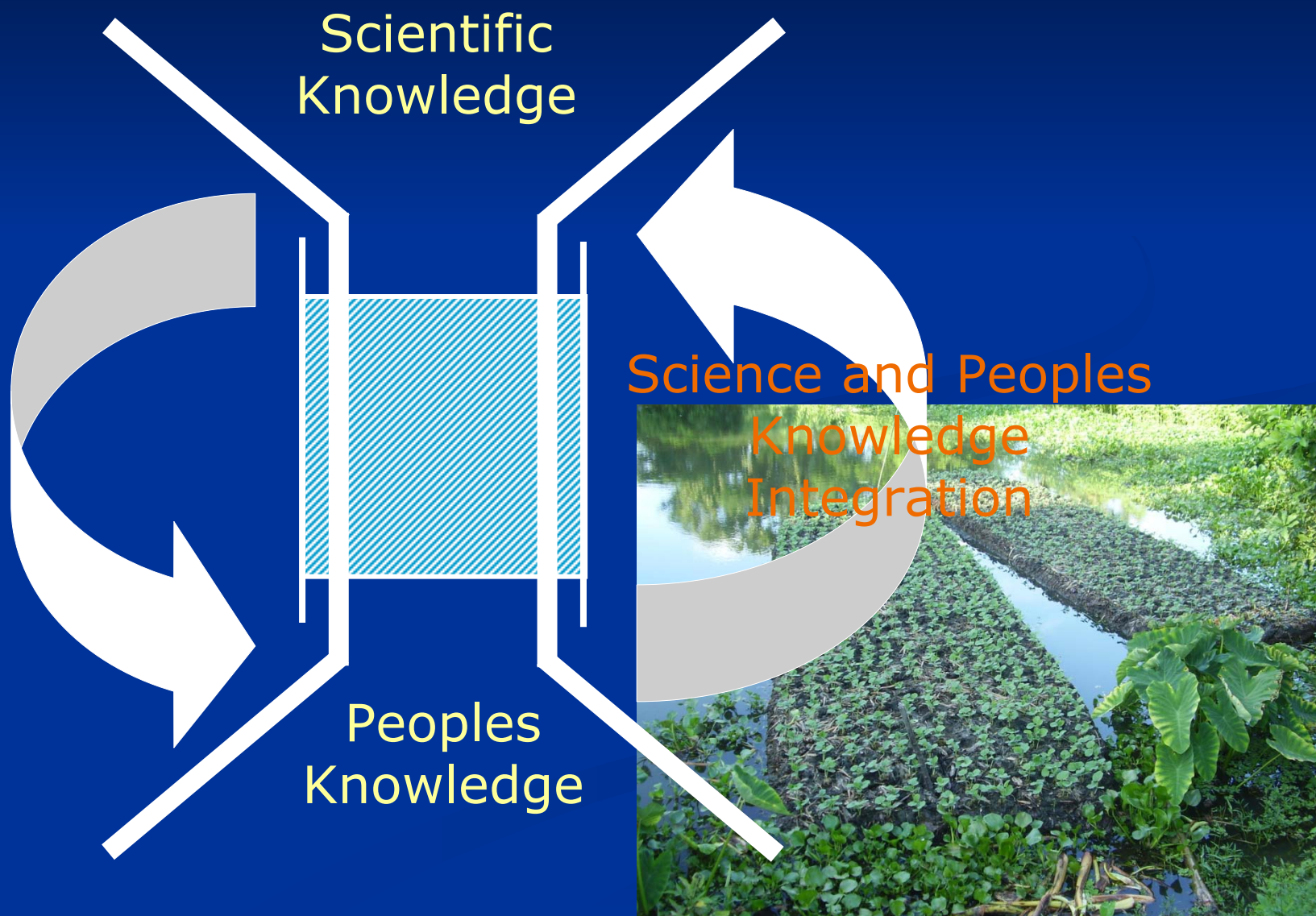
- By applying and advancing scientific, technical and local knowledge.
  - Through research, developing models, demonstration, policy advocacy and pilot scale project implementation
- Activities spread over
  - Local, Sub-national, National, Regional, International and Global levels
- Partnership
  - Carryout activities with partnership and network across many countries of the world

# Approaches of BCAS: Science-Policy-People Integration





# Approaches of BCAS: Integration of Scientific and Peoples Knowledge



# Approaches of BCAS: Knowledge Management for SD

- Knowledge Integration for Sustainable Development
  - Generation and synthesis of knowledge
  - Knowledge management and communication
  - Knowledge for policy and implementation



# Climate Change Programme: Research and Assessment

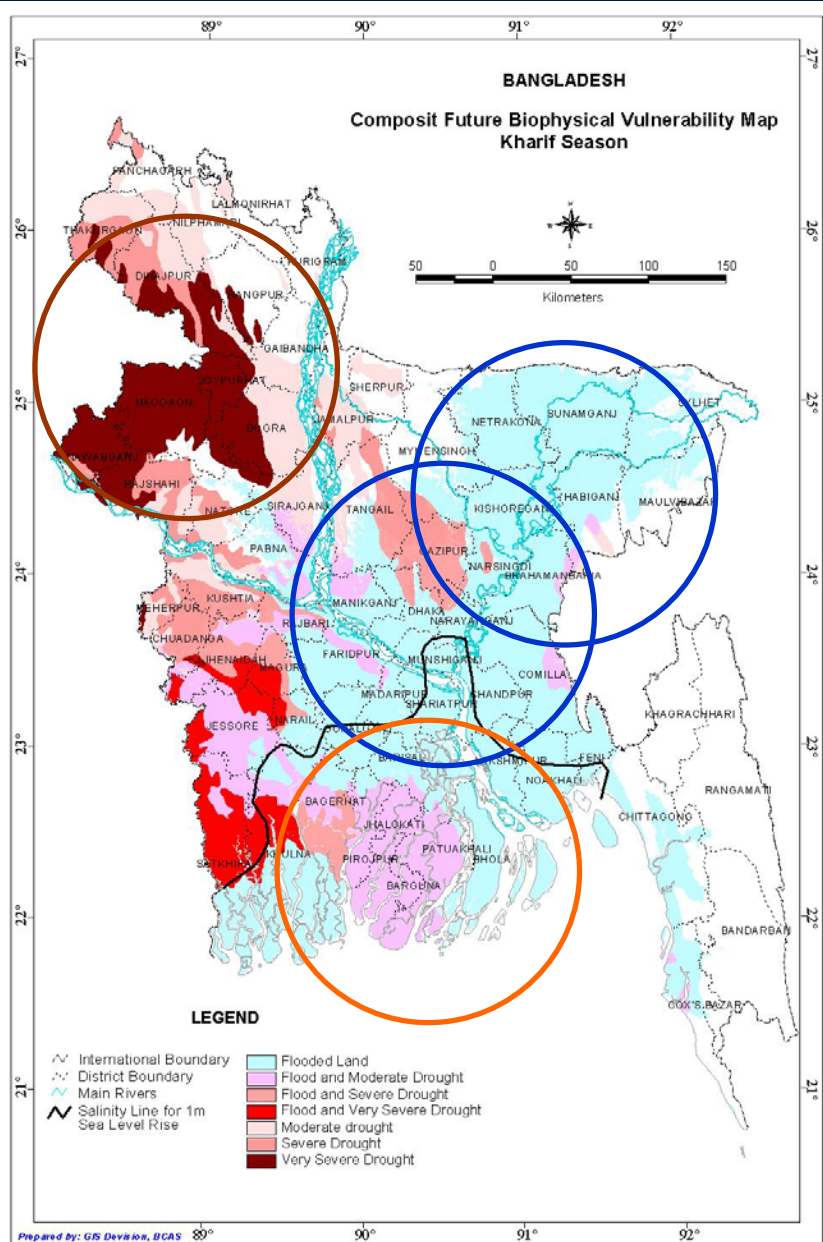
- Contributing to understanding science of climate change and climate change related disasters including gradual change phenomenon;
- Community risk and impacts assessment, adaptation need assessment, and designing community based adaptation projects;
- Assessment of different sectors and ecosystems considering different climate scenarios;
- Integration of top-down and bottom-up approaches;
- Action research to develop methodology, and capture learning





# Climate Change Programme: Physical and Social Vulnerabilities Varies

- Vulnerability context and impacts varies by region;
- Vulnerabilities varies by socio-economic groups and their livelihood dependency



# Climate Change Programme: New Research Initiative

Thirdly, it will adopt a federal type of structure, in which different types of partners and actors are linked together in ways that share experience, build capacity and transfer knowledge –both within Bangladesh and also to other countries. In this way, Bangladesh not only becomes an example for sharing of good practice within the country, but also through the NGOs can disseminate knowledge to the wider world. Capacity building will be an integral part of the process, so that the needs identified during the project can be addressed through sharing among the different participants.

Finally, the project will enable the international and local NGOs to operate within ARCAB on the basis of doing what they already do, but with key attributes of the community adaptation process built into their existing activities. This will ensure that the foundation for continuity and replication is built into the project: the ARCAB climate change adaptation component of the work done by an NGO will be a learning and action-based experience that can be built into everything they do in the future. In this way, disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation measures will be integral to new activities.

ARCAB will run from 2009 for five years, and will be launched at the 3rd International Workshop on Community Based Adaptation (CBA) to Climate Change in Dhaka in February 2009.



For further information please contact:

Terry Cannon  
Climate Change Group, IIED.  
E-mail: [terrycannon@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:terrycannon@blueyonder.co.uk)

Mozaharul Alam  
BCAS.  
E-mail: [mozaharul.alam@bcas.net](mailto:mozaharul.alam@bcas.net)

## ARCAB

Action Research for  
Community Adaptation  
in Bangladesh



Bangladesh  
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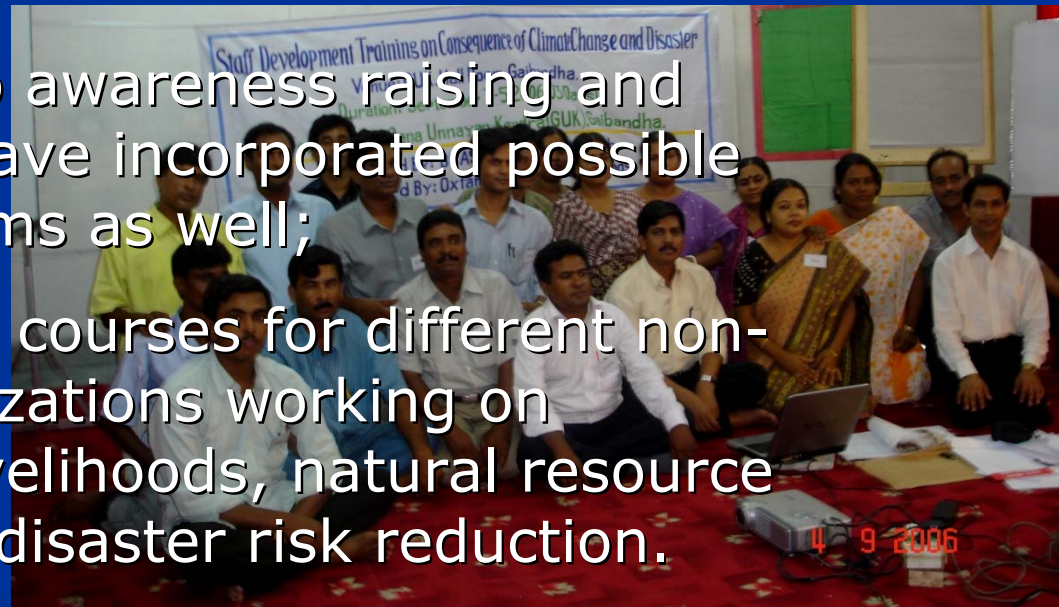


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# Climate Change Programme: Awareness Raising and Capacity Building

- Initially activities were around policy and decision makers of both government and non-government organizations at national level;
- We moved to other relevant sectoral ministries and departments as well as to sub-national and local levels;
- Activities related to awareness raising and capacity building have incorporated possible solutions to problems as well;
- Organizing training courses for different non-government organizations working on diversification of livelihoods, natural resource management, and disaster risk reduction.



# Climate Change Programme: Policy and Institutional Development

- Targeting mainstreaming mitigation and adaptation to climate change;
- Analysis of existing policies and institutional strength and weakness and identification of needs;
- Played central role in formulating National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) and also contributed to Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan;
- Policy and institutional development activities need to show a clear link between climate change and development
- Need to show that activities will enhancing pro-climate development



# Climate Change Programme: Current Portfolio at Sub-National/Local Level

- Vulnerability and adaptation need assessment of different communities and livelihoods groups;
- Formulation of strategies and development of Community Based Adaptation Projects;
- Implementation of pilot scale community based adaptation to climate change;
- Assessment of Community Risk Reduction (CRA), formulation of Risk Reduction Action Plan (RRAP) and pilot scale implementation;
- Capacity building of local NGOs working on NRM, livelihood diversification and DRR.





# Climate Change Programme: Current Portfolio at National Level

- Mainstreaming of climate change through planning process – General Economic Division of Planning Commission
- Provides inputs to bilateral agencies for mainstreaming climate change into development projects;
  - DFID Climate Screening for Development Projects
  - Climate Screening for Agriculture Sector Programme Support
- Fostering climate change and awareness raising through hosting secretariat for Climate Change Development Forum (CCDF)



# Climate Change Programme: Current Portfolio at Regional Level

- Capacity building training for Government Negotiators from South and South East Asia under ECBI;
- South Asian regional hub of CLACC
  - City and Climate Change
- Secretariat for Climate Action Network-South Asia – fostering dialogue among environmental NGOs and advocating/helping government;
- Working through Regional and International Networking Group (RING);

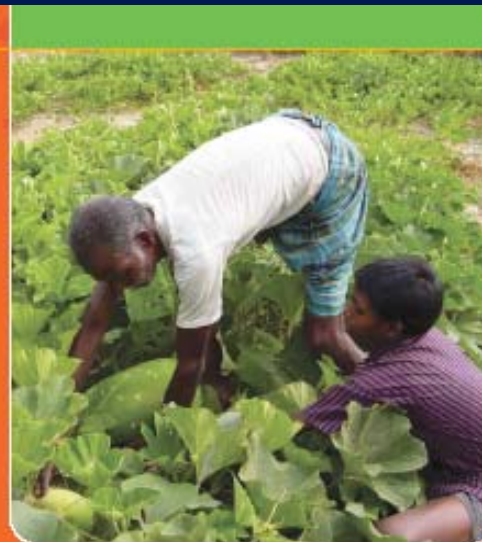
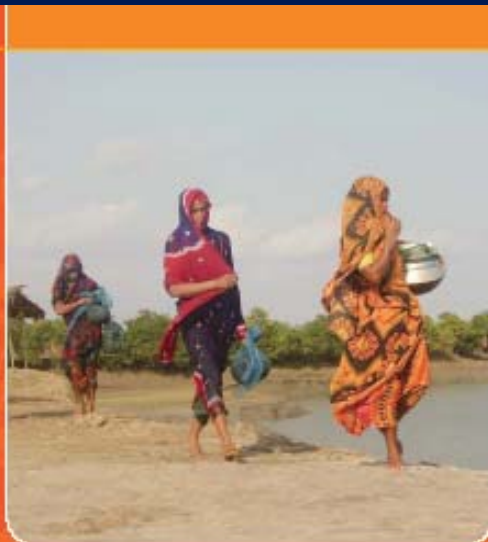


# Climate Change Programme: International Level

- Providing inputs in design and implementation of CBA in Africa;
  - Eight African Countries under IDRC Support
- International Conference on Community Based Adaptation (CBA)
- Involve in North South Dialogue (NSD) on Climate Change;
- Climate Action Network-International (CAN-I);



# Climate Change Programme: Sharing Knowledge



Final Announcement



## IMPORTANT DATES

Submission of abstract	30 November 2008
Application for participation (self-funded)	31 December 2008
Acceptance of abstract	15 January 2009
Arrive in Dhaka	18 February 2009
Field visit	19 and 20 February 2009
Workshop	22-24 February 2009
Depart Dhaka	25 February 2009

## CO-SPONSORS

- British High Commission, Bangladesh
- Care-Bangladesh
- Christian Aid, UK
- Embassy of Denmark, Bangladesh
- FAO, Italy
- Oxfam-GB
- Practical Action, UK
- WWF, UK

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The RING  
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# Sharing Knowledge: Approaches

Inaugural  
Session

Interactive  
Discussions  
(Field)

Plenary Session  
For Sharing  
Discussion

High Level  
Policy Panels

Field Visits  
Six Sites

Interactive  
Discussions  
(Dhaka -  
Parallel  
Stream)

High Level  
Panels on  
Scale up CBA



# LOCATE: Designing Community Based Adaptation Project

## Phase I: Finding Vulnerability “Hot-spots” and “Project Owner” for implementation

### Summary Outputs of Phase I

**Confirmed Hot-spots** (vulnerable community and villages)  
Long list of “eligible” or “potential” projects

List of “Credible and Interested” NGOs and CBOs

**Inputs for Design Phase**  
**Confirmed Hot-spots** (vulnerable community and villages)  
Long list of “eligible” or “potential” projects  
List of “Credible and Interested” NGOs and CBOs

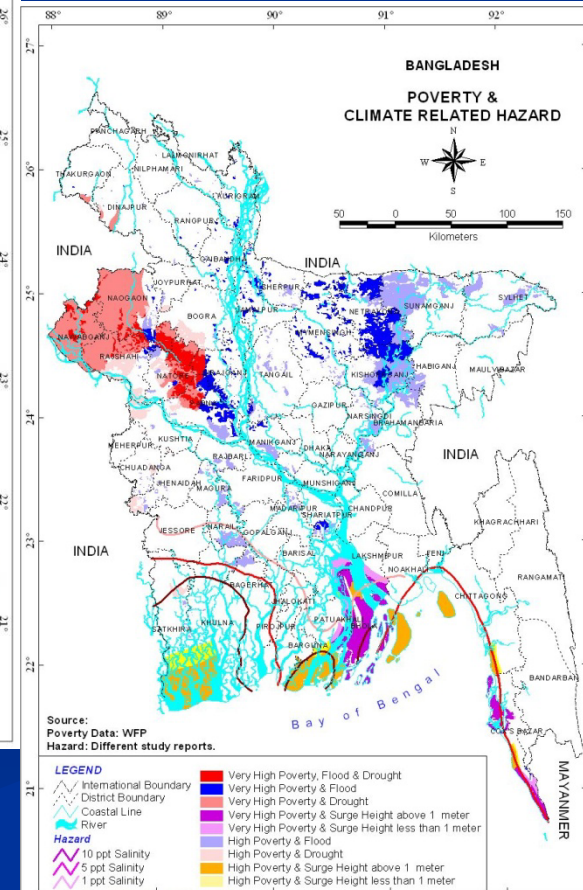
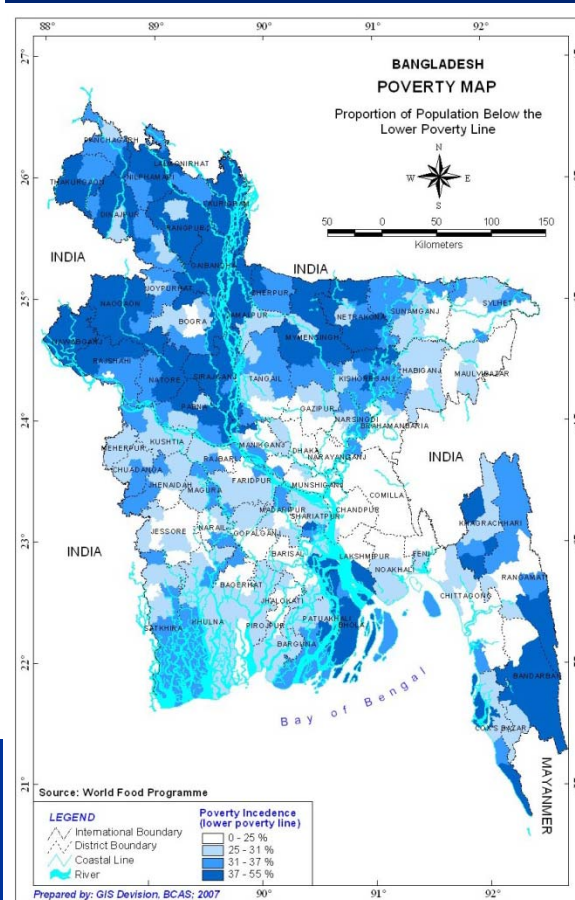
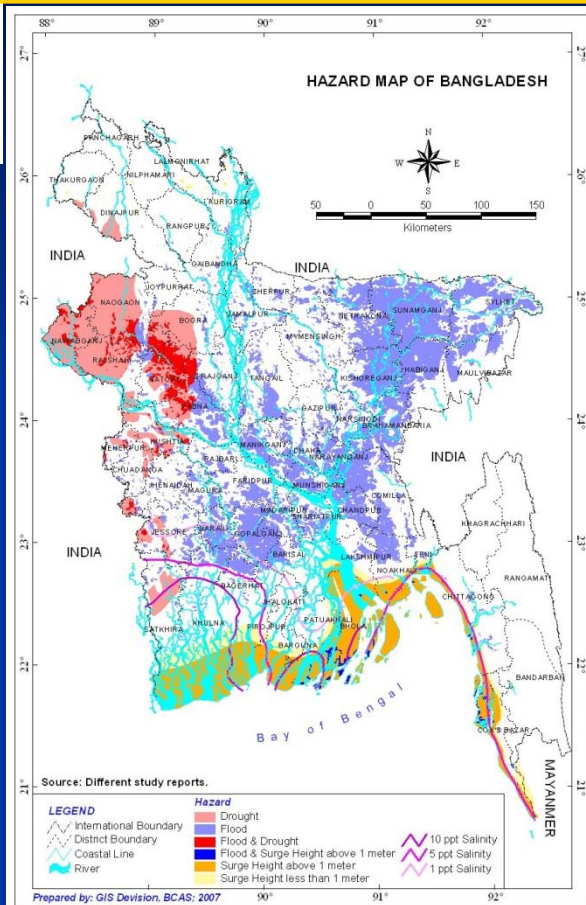
## Phase II: Project Design

### Summary Outputs of Phase II

**Full Project Design Document**

**Inputs for Implementation and Monitoring**  
**Project Design Document**  
(addressing vulnerability of the communities at local level/villages)

# Methodology and Approaches: LOCATE



# Understanding Vulnerability and Need Assessment



## Lessons learned from existing practices and experiences, including opportunities and barriers

- Policy makers demand immediate and demonstrable result – connecting immediate results and long-term climate change is a key challenge;
- Demonstrating impacts of disasters on GDP and Poverty need disaggregated and longitudinal data – additional efforts cover up impacts on GDP
- More work is necessary to demonstrate climate change relevance to designing activities for implementation
- At community level, impacts of natural disaster and gradual change phenomenon are significant when it wiped out or shrunk livelihood opportunities
- Scale up and revisiting existing good practices under future changed conditions particularly climate change



# Thank You

**Mozaharul Alam, Research Fellow  
Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies  
House 10, Road 16 A, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212  
Email: [mozaharul.alam@bcas.net](mailto:mozaharul.alam@bcas.net)**

