

Proposal for 2nd National Conference on Community Based Adaptation (CBA) to Climate Change

Venue: Spectra Convention Centre Dhaka

Date: 14-15th March 2013

Action Research for Community Adaptation in Bangladesh (ARCAB) is a long term action Research Programme building an extensive knowledge base around Community Based Adaptation (CBA) to climate change in 5 major ecosystems in Bangladesh. The programme is jointly managed by Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS) and the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED).

CBA is receiving increasing attention due to its nature of community engagement, acceptance and response to climate change. Bangladesh, leading the global CBA practices is the host of international CBA conference in each two years. From 2012, Bangladesh organized annual National CBA conference (please see attachment on NCBA Programme held on 8-9th April). With a view to further downscaling of CBA practice, ARCAB (Action Research for Community Based Adaptation in Bangladesh) with its 13 Action Partners has initiated 4 divisional CBA conferences in Sylhet, Rajshahi, Khulna and Patuakhali and 1st national conference in Dhaka city. ARCAB's 2nd national CBA conference in March 2014 is in order to reach the goal of mainstreaming CBA practices through communication and knowledge management. The National conference will be a two days long conference where all Action Partners will get the opportunity to showcase their relevant projects and researches.

The two days event will provide knowledge sharing spaces with up to 300 participants from around the country among them: academicians, practitioners, researches and CBA communities. The objectives are:

- Evaluate the best CBA practices of different regions
- Promote successful CBA practices to areas where applicable
- Develop increased communication among stakeholders
- Develop strong outreach components of disseminating CBA

Communicating CBA: Local to National to International

Rational of Local to National level CBA conference

- Communicate the best applicable practices of CBA to the different regions of the country
- Replicating stakeholder's successful CBA practices in needed regions and impede weak practices in others.
- Developing effective communications (inter-organization, vertical and horizontal) among the CBA stakeholders

Objectives of the Local and National Level CBA Conference

- Evaluate best CBA practices of different regions
- Develop common understanding on CBA among stakeholders
- Promote successful CBA practices to other areas where applicable
- Develop strong outreach component of disseminating CBA

- Developing a comprehensive guideline to effective communication module to strengthen bottom-up connections of stakeholders
- Publish the guideline as a communication module for CBA

Local, national and International CBA conference

The Local and National CBA conference will be organized as the Communication and Knowledge management part of Action Research for Community Adaptation in Bangladesh (ARCAB). The ARCAB action partners are expected to play a significant role to carry out the activity. ARCAB lessons will be disseminated internationally during International CBA Conference which is held every year with every alternate year in Bangladesh and the other in a second country. Hence, the international CBA conference which Bangladesh will host in every second year will be the international stage of the Local CBA Conference to disseminate the local findings to international audiences.

Conference Calendar

Type	Date	Venue	Organizers
1 st Divisional CBA Conference	16 th October 2011	Rajshahi University, Rajshahi	Action Aid, Rajshahi University and ARCAB
2 nd Divisional CBA Conference	22 nd February 2012	Khulna University, Khulna	Concern World Wide, Khulna University and ARCAB
3 rd Divisional CBA Conference	18 th March 2012	Shahjalal University, Sylhet	CARE Bangladesh, Shahjalal University and ARCAB
4 th Divisional CBA conference	22 nd August 2013	Patuakhali Science & Technology University (PSTU)	Plan Bangladesh, Save the Children, PSTU and ARCAB
5 th Divisional CBA conference	To be confirmed	RDRS	CARE Bangladesh, Islamic Relief Worldwide, Begum Rokeya University & ARCAB
National	14-15 th March 2014	Dhaka	ARCAB
International	24 th April to 30 th April	Kathmundu	IIED, BCAS

Tentative dates:

Probably March 2014 (before the eighth international conference, CBA8, to be held in Nepal in April 2014)

Programme:

Two days with mix of opening and closing plenaries each day and (up to three) parallel sessions twice a day. ARCAB is suggesting to partners who have ongoing climate change projects around the country that partners may wish to hold a project team meeting the day before the conference and then allow teams to stay and attend the three-day conference.

Participants:

300 Participants from around the country are expected in the two days long conference (not just from Dhaka). Participation will be free-of-charge (but by-invitation-only). A number of VIPs for opening and closing sessions and eminent experts as keynote speakers for plenaries will be invited.

Cost (estimated):

We estimate a total cost of around Tk 30 to 40 lacs (the first National CBA conference last year cost 25 lacs over two days) which will include production of a high quality book (in addition to the proceedings of the conference) after the event is over.

Outputs:

The following products are expected to produce from the conference:

- A. Conference paper with abstracts, programme, etc (at time of conference)
- B. Proceedings (soon after conference)
- C. Edited high quality book based on selected papers from the conference (well after the conference).

Outcomes:

In terms of outcomes ARCAB hope for the following:

- A. Knowledge sharing amongst all relevant actors in Bangladesh.
- B. Engagement with relevant policy makers.
- C. Message from Bangladesh to CBA8 in Nepal.

Fund-raising strategy:

Funding will be raised for the conference from co-sponsors (as ARCAB did last year). This time ARCAB are proposing two levels of co-sponsorship as follows:

- A. level one (basic-as before): Tk 2 lacs per co-sponsor. This will entitle them to have their logo on all conference materials and also to nominate up to 10 full-time participants.
- B. Level two (enhanced and new): Tk 3 lacs per co-sponsor. This entitles them to same as basic level (for 2 lacs) and in addition allows them to have a parallel session with their own banner and name and speakers (to showcase their own project). They will also be entitled to nominating an extra 10 full-time participants.
- C. In addition to above, we will have two evenings available for sponsored dinner or cultural or other event.

Steering Committee:

ARCAB will be forming a small steering committee soon (consisting of level two co-sponsors and selected others).

Your Feedback:

ARCAB would be very happy to know if your organization would be interested to be a co-sponsor (either level one or level two?). Your reply is expected soon if you are interested to be co-sponsor.