

District Level Workshop Report on Climate Change Hazards, Impacts and Adaptation at Khulna



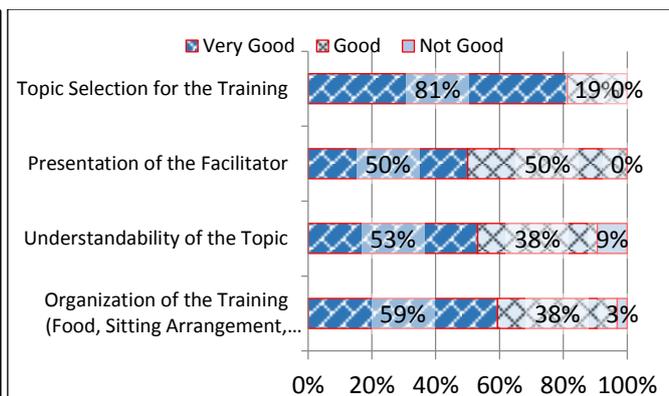
A district level workshop was held on “Climate Change Hazards, Impacts and Adaptation” under Coastal Climate Resilient Infrastructure Project (CCRIP) of Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) on 29 July 2018 at the Conference Room of Circuit House, Khulna District. The workshop was organized by LGED, Khulna district which was presided and inaugurated by Ms. Ishrat Jahan, Deputy Director, Local Government, DC Office Khulna. She mentioned that Khulna is highly vulnerable to both natural and climate change related disasters. She acknowledged that there are many knowledgeable participants in this event who should share their experience in this important workshop. A total of 44 participants attended the workshop including ASP of Khulna District, Executive Engineer, LGED, Khulna district, Assistant Commissioners, University Professor, different District Level GoB Officers, Heads of Educational Institutions, Members of Professional Groups, Imam, Teachers, Civil Society, NGO Representatives, Journalists and Local Elites. Mr. Rakib Ul Alam, Executive Engineer, LGED, Khulna welcomed the participants to the workshop. He also gave a brief overview of the CCRIP of LGED. In his project overview, he mentioned that the CCRIP project is being implemented since 2013 in 12 coastal districts. Goal of the project is to improve livelihood (higher incomes and food security) for poor households (women and men) in 83 Upazilas of 12 coastal districts. Mr. Md. Bodiuzzaman, ASP, Khulna also gave his speech as the special guest of the event. It was a common platform where the resource persons on climate change and other sectors have met together to share their idea and indigenous knowledge about climate change hazards, impacts and adaptation.



Mr. Sarder Shafiqul Alam, Coordinator, International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) at Independent University of Bangladesh (IUB) and Mr. Faisal Bin Islam, Researcher, ICCCAD at IUB facilitated the workshop as resource persons. The workshop sessions covered topics on climate change science, its hazards and impacts on coastal region of Bangladesh and adaptation techniques.

The lecture session was followed by question & answer and open discussion where the participants shared their opinion on long term adaptation through joint collaboration between the government and non-government initiatives. There is a lack in research-based information on siltation in coastal region and sea level rise. All research based information should be shared publicly. Due to surge and tidal flood, flora and fauna of the Sundarbans are at high risk. As problems are increasing in the coastal region due to both climatic and man-made reasons, these should be overcome through relevant adaptation options. Housing and infrastructures should be designed as climate resilient, so that houses, roads and embankment are not affected by cyclone, surge and erosion. Livelihood options should be created at local level to prevent outward migration. Rainwater harvesting and conservation into large water bodies should be made available for fresh water and reduce saline water problems in Khulna region.

Participant's Evaluation



Mr. Alam informed that more than 2000 climate change related research articles including adaptation technologies on Bangladesh are available at ICCCAD website (www.icccad.net/gobeshona) for which are open to all.

In the question answer session, Mr Rafiqul Alam mentioned that multipurpose cyclone shelters have been constructed under CCRIP. These shelters are suitable for livestock in the first floor, provision for both men and women in the second floor which can also be used for education and other purposes. Lastly, he thanked all the participants for their active participation and the ICCCAD facilitators for their informative lectures and concluded the workshop.