

Key Messages from South Asia Resilience Hub

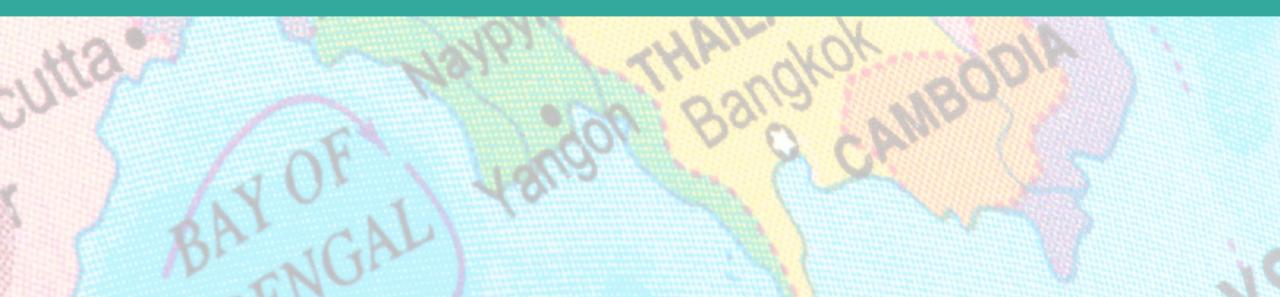




- Climate change impacts vary across South Asia but adaptation can be strengthened through shared learning and community empowerment.
- Operational mechanism of Loss and Damage fund should be flexible to amplify access by the vulnerable counties.
- Youth engagement in addressing critical issues related to sustainable energy, infrastructure, and mobility is important as the youth demonstrated passion, creative thinking, and commitment to collaboration and partnership.
- Women in rural communities are at the forefront of coping with climate extremes, but they face significant work pressure and need more support.



Highlighted Challenges and Strategies from around South Asia





Bangladesh- Zurich Foundation funded Flood Resilience Alliance- project in Bangladesh's Gaibandha and LalmonirHat district (Concern Worldwide)

Challenges:

- **1.** Securing the necessary funds for flood prevention and resilience efforts.
- 2. Finding alternative methods to enhance resilience in areas where permanent infrastructure is not possible.
- 3. Assessing the current level of resilience across various aspects such as human, social, economic, financial, and natural capitals can be complex and resource-intensive.

Strategy:

1. Develop and utilize efficient and standardized assessment tools like flood resilience measurement for communities (FRMC) to measure the resilience of communities, making the assessment process more manageable.

- 2. Findings like communities develop resilience action plans and collaboration of stakeholders to enhance flood resilience from the tool enable effectively address floods and their aftermath
- 3. Ensure that the necessary funds are allocated to flood preparedness and resilience activities making our communities who live with the threat of flood every year stronger and empowered to protect themselves and their livelihoods.
- 4. Explore a mix of funding sources, including government grants, international aid, public-private partnerships, and community contributions to fund flood resilience initiatives.

5. Invest in building the capacity of communities to implement their action plans effectively, providing them with the skills and knowledge to adapt to flood situations.



Nepal- Identifying local adaptation practices and interventions (UNDP,AFCIA/ISGAP)

Challenges:

- **1.** Drought reduction, water management and rangeland practices.
- 2. Loss and Damage.

Strategy:

- **1.** Integrating indigenous knowledge and practices into the adaptation efforts.
- 2. Combine traditional practices with scientific knowledge to address the evolving. challenges



Thailand- Planting bamboo to slow wave encroachment and restore the mangrove area-Coastal Region of Thailand (KIRDARC)

Challenges:

1. Sea level rise which is causing severe storms, tides, and waves threating the livelihoods, particularly in mangrove areas.

2. More intense storms and rising temperatures, have made these measures less effective.

3. The lack of support from the government in Thailand to address loss and damage resulting from climate change impacts makes it challenging for communities to cope with the changing environment.

4. National Adaptation Plan(nap) and the National Adaptation Plan on Action (Napa) is somehow not fully implemented or financed.

Strategies:

1. The communities have used bamboo fences as an adaptation measure to protect mangrove areas and slow down the encroachment of the sea.

- 2. Strategy that aligns with their traditional knowledge and practices.
- 3. Reclaim fish and marine resources.

4. Engaging with local communities and key stakeholders, such as farmers and women's groups, is crucial in developing and implementing effective strategies.



India- Empowering urban communities, fostering environmental rejuvenation, and sharing transformative urban development approaches with broader societal impacts.(UNDP,AFCIA/ISGAP)

Challenges:

- 1. Informal settlements are mostly located in hazardous areas and lack basic infrastructure which makes them vulnerable to natural disasters and other challenges.
- 2. Climate change is increasing the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, which is putting additional pressure on informal settlements.
- 3. Many successful interventions have been implemented at the local level, but it can be difficult to scale them up to larger areas.

Strategies:

- **1. Knowledge and experience of local communities that can be tapped into to develop effective solutions.**
- 2. Providing basic infrastructure and services, such as sanitation, water supply, and waste management, can improve the quality of life in informal settlements.
- 3. Nature-based solutions, such as planting trees and restoring wetlands, can help to mitigate the impacts of climate change.
- 4. Policies that recognize the rights of informal settlers and provide support for their communities can make a significant difference.



Pakistan- Increasing reliance on natural gas and the urgent need to introduce renewable energy projects (EMINATE)

Challenges:

- **1. Rapid increase in internal Greenhouse Gas emissions.**
- 2. Approximately 46% of greenhouse gas emissions in Pakistan come from burning fossil fuels, with over 60% reliance on thermal energy in the national grid.
- 3. Severe energy shortages and is the second most urbanizing country in South Asia.
- 4. Numerous climate-related disasters, leading to mass internal migration, displacement, and loss of life.

Strategy:

1. Promote and invest in renewable energy sources to diversify the energy mix and reduce dependency on fossil fuels.

- 2. Seek international funding and support for large-scale renewable energy projects.
- 3. Implement energy-efficient technologies and urban planning practices.



Bhutan- Bhutan's Local project constructed bridges, benefiting farmers, residents, and students-Phobjika, Bhutan (UNCDF LOCAL)

Challenges:

- **1. Access to proper infrastructure for education and transportation in rural areas.**
- 2. Isolated rural communities that lacked proper access to public services and markets.
- **3. Lack of Resource Allocation.**

Strategies:

1. Improved livelihoods, reduced vulnerability to climate risks, and enhanced resilience to natural disasters.

- **2.** Foster the capacity of CBOs to play a leading role in LLA initiatives by providing training, access to resources, and opportunities for collaboration.
- 3. Promote knowledge sharing.

4. Support policies that promote LLA by advocating for funding mechanisms, legal frameworks, and institutional structures that empower local communities.



Vietnam- Saline-tolerant potato and sweet potato production in rice cropping systems- Mekong Delta.(CGIAR Initiative on Asian Mega-Deltas)

Challenges:

- **1.** Heavy rains and salinized areas challenges the production of crop.
- 2. Emerging diseases in sweet potato crops can affect productivity.
- 3. Varietal diversity is essential to mitigate the risks associated with crop production.
- 4. Social and cultural norms impacting the extent to which women can benefit from these initiatives.

Strategies:

- **1.** Using saline-tolerant potato varieties in Asian Mega-Deltas helps utilize fallow paddy fields for potato production in the winter.
- 2. Promoting crop diversification, such as the rotation of rice and sweet potatoes.
- 3. The training of young women as Community Nutrition Scholars and providing education programs on nutrition, hygiene, and child care.