
Concept Note

Voices from the Frontline

Amplifying Grassroots Narratives on Loss and Damage in Bangladesh

Project Background

The Voices from the Frontline (VFL) project, in collaboration with CDKN and GRP, initially sought to gather and learn from resilience-building initiatives worldwide in response to the impacts of climate change. Launched in May 2020 by the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), the project aimed to amplify the voices of local communities and showcase their stories of adaptation. Through in-depth interviews and storytelling, the VFL project provided a platform for highlighting local responses, best practices, and lessons learned, contributing to a deeper understanding of the challenges and solutions at the grassroots level.

Building upon the success of the VFL project, a new initiative has been launched, focusing specifically on documenting and sharing stories of loss and damage experienced by local communities in Bangladesh. In joint collaboration with the Loss and Damage Forum (LDF) and HEKS-EPER, ICCAD aims to shed light on the adverse impacts of climate change in Bangladesh and the resilience strategies adopted by communities to cope with these challenges. By amplifying grassroots narratives, the project seeks to raise awareness, foster dialogue, and inspire action towards building climate resilience at the local level.

The Voices from the Frontline blog series has been instrumental in capturing and disseminating compelling narratives from around the world, showcasing the resilience and innovation of communities facing climate change impacts. These stories not only provide valuable insights into local challenges and solutions but also facilitate peer learning and global outreach. Now, with a specific focus on Bangladesh and the issues of loss and damage, the project aims to deepen understanding and spur action to address the urgent climate-related challenges facing communities in the country.

Through partnerships with local organizations and stakeholders, the VFL project in Bangladesh will engage directly with communities to ensure their voices are heard and their experiences are shared. By highlighting the realities of loss and damage, as well as the resilience strategies employed by communities, the project aims to inform policy discussions, mobilize resources, and drive action to support climate adaptation and resilience-building efforts in Bangladesh and beyond.

Project Objective

The objective of the project is **to accumulate, learn from and disseminate loss and damage stories to build evidence base for the deeper shifts needed to build community resilience in the face of climate change.** At the end of the project, a synthesis document will be created to combine the captured stories from around Bangladesh.

Methodology

- The case stories will be published on ICCCAD website, Loss and Damage Forum website, social media, partner websites and blogs for dissemination.
- A total of 4 climate stories and 2 video documentaries will be published from July 2024 – August 2024
- The case stories will be documented through a collaborative effort between the interviewer and the curation team to ensure the interviewee and interviewer’s views are prominently reflected in the story captured.
- The final case story output will be shared with the interviewer for review and availing final consent before publishing.

Output

The case stories will be published on social media and partner websites in the form of a written blog/video story.

- 1000-word case story or a 5-minutes video documentary capturing the losses and damages on the ground in order to capture important lessons for building effective community resilience to climate change. The written blog will be supported by:
 - Images of the interviewee(s)
 - Images of the community
 - Images of the initiative undertaken, wherever possible
 - An audio file of the interview conducted.
- OR a 5 mins video documentary, which will be supported by
 - Climate actions to tackle losses and damages led by local communities will be collected and compiled by the videographer to develop into a video documentary, with focus on one area.
 - The video shall be collected by applying a flexible inquiry method via in-person or online interview.
 - Submitted scripts and drafts will be reviewed by the project curation team.

Application deadline: May 15, 2024

Application link: <https://forms.gle/KBQuciEoK3Y9685u6>