

# Implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions in Bangladesh: Updates, Issues and Options

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WORKSHOP REPORT  
2022



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# List of Acronyms

<b>ADPC</b>	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center
<b>AFOLU</b>	Agriculture, Forestry and Land Use
<b>AWD</b>	Alternative Wetting and Drying
<b>BUR</b>	Biennial Update Report
<b>CEGIS</b>	Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services
<b>C3ER</b>	Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research
<b>DFAT</b>	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
<b>GHG</b>	Greenhouse gas
<b>GoB</b>	Government of Bangladesh
<b>IPPU</b>	Industrial Processes and Product Use
<b>MoEFCC</b>	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
<b>MoWR</b>	Ministry of Water Resources
<b>MRV</b>	Measurement, Reporting and Verification
<b>MtCO<sub>2e</sub></b>	Metric ton of carbon dioxide equivalent
<b>NDC</b>	Nationally Determined Contributions
<b>REDD</b>	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation

# 1. Summary of Event

<b>Date:</b>	10 March 2022
<b>Venue:</b>	Face-to-face: Hotel Amari, Gulshan Road, Dhaka, Bangladesh Online: Curtin University, DFAT, Australia and ADPC Thailand
<b>Duration:</b>	10:00 - 13:30 (3.5 hours)
<b>Co-organized by:</b>	ADPC and Curtin University with financial support from Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia

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## 2. Background and Introduction

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are the necessary non-binding action plans on climate change targeted by each country as their long-term goals on reducing emissions and combating climate change impacts. NDCs are intended to be dynamic; countries regularly update them and advance the level of ambition and science and implementation experience required to meet the long-term temperature goal, in line with the Paris Agreement.

While NDCs form a critical piece towards climate action and pathways to a net-zero economy, it is essential to identify any current gaps and the future needs at the country level, so as to implement these actions effectively. Initiatives such as policy gaps and needs analysis interlinking with the updated NDC review process present opportunities for synergies in addressing these gaps and needs, through the alignment of critical processes such as the National Adaptation Plans, Sustainable Development Goals, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Against this backdrop, the Australian government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) has commissioned Curtin University Australia and the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) to develop a framework for facilitating NDCs in the Indo-Pacific countries. In this connection, ADPC organized a workshop to discuss the current status of NDCs, key challenges, and capacity needs to successfully implement the NDCs over the next five years. This would eventually lead to developing a framework for how Australia can support countries in the Indo-Pacific region, in terms of implementing their respective NDCs.

## 3. Overall Objective

The overall objective of the workshop was to understand the current status of country's nationally determined contributions (NDCs), impact of climate change on key economic sectors, mitigation and adaptation targets, and challenges faced by Bangladesh in implementation NDCs.

The following are the specific objectives:

- 1.1. Understand the current implementation status of NDCs
- 1.2. Identify innovative localized climate change solutions
- 1.3. Discuss key challenges and identification of capacity needs towards implementing NDCs in Bangladesh
- 1.4. Identify best practices for the implementation of NDCs in Bangladesh

The workshop was expected to help draft a report on the situation analysis of NDCs for Paris Commitments that include the following outcomes:

- i. Updates on the prevailing status of the implementation of NDCs and a summary of the challenges as well as key capacity needs
- ii. Best practices for NDC implementation in Bangladesh

## 4. Overview

### ***i. Welcome remarks by Mr. Irfan Maqbool, Director, Risk Governance, ADPC Thailand***

Mr. Irfan Maqbool, Director, Risk Governance Department at ADPC, warmly welcomed distinguished guests, renowned experts, speakers, and all participants to the consultation workshop. He provided a brief background for the project and explained its importance, while mentioning workshop outcomes, which will be used to organize regional level meetings in Bangkok, Thailand and Perth, Australia in 2022 and 2023 respectively. Also, to develop a framework for the Australian government to be able to facilitate the implementation of NDCs in the Indo-Pacific countries.



Mr. Maqbool also mentioned the World Bank-funded five-year project Climate Adaptation and Resilience (CARE) for South Asia, which is working with a number of ministries and departments towards implementing activities in Bangladesh in the key sectors of agriculture, water, rural road infrastructure, finance and policy. He appealed the senior government focal points from these sectors to share their insights.

### ***ii. Opening remarks by Professor Therese Jefferson, Head of School, Curtin University, Australia***

Professor Therese Jefferson, in her opening remarks, reiterated the importance of NDCs and the key role they play in the long-term goals of reducing emissions and addressing the impacts of climate change and action towards a net zero world. She informed everyone about the university's vision and strategic plan, which can be succinctly summarized by means of its three key priorities: partnerships, planet, and people. This workshop is an excellent example of the partnerships bringing together key representatives with expertise and research, policy, and multiple areas of practical expertise that are essential for sharing the multifaceted insights and approaches which address complex social, economic, and technical challenges.



Professor Jefferson mentioned that, at a fundamental level, it comes down to commitment and knowledge of people and representatives in a country, as well as their contribution towards ensuring the success of achieving NDCs in each specific local context.

**iii. Mr. Richard Neumann, Director, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Australia**

Mr. Richard Neumann, Director, DFAT, Australia spoke briefly about the International Climate Change Engagement Program, as a support scheme designed to facilitate the sharing of knowledge. He emphasized Asia and the Pacific in particular, providing opportunities for the participants to learn from each other's experiences. Bangladesh is at the frontline of climate change. He mentioned looking forward to seeing the participation and learnings from this workshop reflected in deeper engagement between Australia and Bangladesh to keep Paris Commitments.



Mr. Richard Neumann shared insights into Australia's expertise on rooftop solar power, which it leads globally. He also explained that one in four households have solar panels on its roof. This is a leading example of zero demand on the grid, which will be expanded across the country as early as 2025.

Additionally, he said that a climate change adaptation course will be delivered later in the year; details will be shared later with potential participants and they will be encouraged to apply. Admissions will be limited to two participants per country.

**iv. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Bhowmik, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of Bangladesh (GoB)**

Mr. Sanjay Kumar Bhowmik, Additional Secretary, MoEFCC, GoB, spoke about the updated NDC submitted by Bangladesh and pointed out that, with higher ambition and targets set, the implementation of NDCs is a major issue. He believes that this workshop and Australian support will help the country to identify and mobilize advanced technology/solutions in the implementation process.



**v. Dr. Ainun Nishat, Professor Emeritus and Advisor, Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research (C3ER), BRAC University**

Dr. Ainun Nishat, Professor Emeritus and Advisor, C3ER, BRAC University, briefly explained NDC as a country-driven document, drafted in an inclusive manner with targets till 2030, as per the Paris Agreement. NDC was approved by the Prime Minister and submitted to UNFCCC in December 2021. Updated reports will be submitted every five years, with targets for the next ten years. For improvement of the process needs support where the responsible institution for finance is the Ministry of Finance, the Department of Forest is responsible for technological support, and MoEFCC will handle the overall management of the issue.



**vi. Mr. Malik Fida A Khan, Executive Director, Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS), Ministry of Water Resources**

Mr. Malik Fida Khan updated on the commitment to reduce total 27.56 metric tons of greenhouse gas (GHG), with a maximum of 26.3 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e reduction in the energy sector in an unconditional scenario; 59.7 Mt reduction in the conditional scenario. He also mentioned detailed mitigation actions in Energy (10 Actions); Agriculture, Forestry and Land Use (9 Actions); and Waste (4 Actions), with a description of different energy-efficient planned projects and implementations in both unconditional and conditional scenarios.



He added that the preparation of the first biennial update report (BUR) of Bangladesh has been initiated by MoEFCC. He emphasized that some immediate actions are required to implement NDCs, including the formation and establishment of a national committee, and Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system, a monitoring system for milestones, an NDC implementation roadmap, a data collection and update mechanism, and details regarding mitigation actions and specific emissions for different sectors.

**vii. Dr. Asaduzzaman, Former Research Director, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS)**

Dr. Asaduzzaman highlighted that complexities in the implementation of NDCs are operational ownership (i.e. clarity on actions need to fall in line with overall actual implementation; cost estimates need refining); horizontal and vertical responsibilities among different ministries and their ownership towards NDC; and, the need for a clear and detailed plan for mitigation actions and its implementation with mandates. He mentioned that more clarity in emission reduction is required to identify actions for renewable energy and emissions from the waste management system, as well as identification of some innovative solutions to phase out coal, so as to overcome challenges in implementation.



Some steps forward and recommendations addressed are: a market-based and non-market-based mechanism to be promoted in the country in a balanced manner; aligning and strengthening policies and regulations so as to influence social and economic behaviour; promoting payment for ecosystem services and hydrogen fuel; balancing coal with renewable energy for power generation; and, a study on the price influencing mechanism. Dr. Asaduzzaman stressed that an emphasis should be placed on developing an MRV system for the country.

**viii. Mr. Dharitri Kumar Sarkar, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of Bangladesh (MoEFCC)**

Mr. Dharitri Kumar Sarkar spoke about the key challenges in the implementation of NDCs: lack of knowledge and awareness about NDCs and mitigation actions; lack of basic data collection among different economic sectors; lack of financial support; lack of capacity and implementation plans such as sector-specific management plans, policies and laws; inadequate research and technology development and transfer; and, a lack of coordination among different stakeholders.



He spoke about some recommendations as ways of finding innovative entry points for mainstreaming NDC commitments and targets into existing development plans, policies, strategies and budgets; broad ownership of NDCs by all key ministries and departments as well as non-governmental stakeholders; clear mandates; emission pathways which are yet to be determined; the development of practical tools and methods with which to identify main stakeholders in the NDC process; coordination with NDC stakeholders; and harnessing new technologies.

Mr. Sarkar also spoke about entry points like climate finance to identify trends and gaps in the current system; to identify domestic and international funding sources and to establish a national climate finance system; and Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system development for transparency and accountability. Finally, he emphasized that good governance is key to the meaningful implementation of any development strategy.

## 5. Recommendations and Way Forward

The following recommendations were put forth during the workshop:

- Nationally Determined Contributions for the country should transition from adaptation to mitigation, especially in overall energy transformation and investments leading to net zero pathways 2040.
- Policy coherence should be emphasized, with policies and regulations used to address NDC commitments and targets involving relevant stakeholders in advisory committees and working groups for NDC implementation.
- One of the key challenges in the role of the current governance system is to achieve coordination among relevant ministries and a central body. Therefore, an Act may be enacted to improve monitoring, tracking, reporting and ownership from all ministries.
- Capacity-building needs to be strengthened on MRV System & reporting to comply with global stocktaking after 2023, with an updated roadmap in place to execute it.
- As the Planning Commission intends to implement useful projects in the next fiscal year for NDC implementation, which may be proposed by different ministries on specific sectors, external/international Climate Finance should be leveraged for scaling up these projects.

ADPC in Bangladesh has been supporting the government since 2008, to transform its disaster management emphasis from a response and relief focus to a broader and more encompassing risk management framework. Since the inception of Climate Adaptation and Resilience (CARE) for South Asia in 2020 with support from the World Bank, ADPC has been supporting the government in order to improve and advance its sectoral policies, so as to be more climate-resilient, mainly in the areas of water, crop agriculture, livestock, rural road and road infrastructure, national development planning and budget setting process. With this initiative, ADPC would be more informed about the ways and means with which to mainstream the climate change mitigation targets recommended in the updated NDC, using sectoral plans and strategies in its work processes in the country.

# 6. Annex 1: Workshop Agenda

## National Workshop on

### Implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions in Bangladesh: Updates, Issues and Options

Date: 10 March 2022  
Venue: Ball Room, Hotel Amari, Gulshan 2, Dhaka

## Agenda

Time	Activities	Speaker
10.00 - 10.15	Opening Remarks	<b>Mr. Mohammad Abdur Rouf</b> Country Representative, ADPC <b>Professor Therese Jefferson</b> Head of School, Curtin University Australia <b>Mr Richard Neumann</b> Director, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Australian Government
10.15 - 10.20	Workshop Introduction	<b>Dr Ainun Nishat</b> Professor Emeritus and Advisor, Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research (C3ER), BRAC University
10.20 - 11.00	Setting the Tone for the Implementation of NDCs in Bangladesh	<b>Mr. Malik Fida A Khan</b> Executive Director, Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS), Ministry of Water Resources
<b>11.00 - 11.30</b>	<b>Open Discussion</b>	
11.30 - 11.45	Coffee Break	
11.45 - 12.00	Taking Forward to NDC Implementation in Bangladesh	<b>Dr. Asaduzzaman</b> Ex Research Director, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies
12.00 - 12.10	Next Steps Required for the Implementation of NDC in Bangladesh	<b>Mr. Dharitri Kumar Sarkar</b> Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of Bangladesh



## 7. Annex 2: List of participants

Sl. No	Name	Designation
1.	Dr. Asaduzzaman	Former Director, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS)
2.	Mr. Malik Fida A Khan	Executive Director, CEGIS
3.	Sanjay Kumar Bhowmik	Addl. Secretary, MoEFCC
4.	Dharitri Kumar Sarkar	Deputy Secretary, MoEFCC
5.	Professor Dr. Ainun Nishat	Prof. Professor Emeritus BRAC University, Project Leader, NAP Project
6.	Dr. Md. Zaglul Hossain	DECF, Bangladesh Forest Department
7.	Dr. Mariam Akhtar	DCF, BFD
8.	Professor Dr. Saleemul Huq	Director, ICCCAD
9.	Dr. Ahsanul Kabir	Transport sector expert, NDC study team
10.	A.K.M. Luthfur Rahman	Additional Chief Engineer & Director, Climate Resilient Local Infrastructure Centre (CRoLIC) Local Government Engineering Department (LGED)
11.	Dr. Nurun Nahar	Joint Chief, Program Division, General Economic Division; Project Director, National Resilience Programme (NRP), Programming Division
12.	Dr. Md. Rafiqul Islam	District Livestock Officer (L/R) Post Department of Livestock Services, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
13.	Fatema Ismat Ara	Senior AE, LGED
14.	Abdullah Al Arif	Deputy Secretary, MoWR
15.	Ameer Md. Zahid	PSO, SRDI
16.	Md. Mazedul Islam	Deputy Secretary, MoEFCC
17.	Dr. Zaidi Sattar	Chairman, PRI
18.	Roufa Khanum	In charge, C3ER
19.	Tapas Chakrabarty	Senior Project Manager, BRAC
20.	Rakibul Hasan	Executive Director, Avannayak Foundation
21.	S.M. Shafiqur Rahaman	SE, DNCC
22.	Daisake ITO	Representative, JICA
23.	Md. Mahjib Hossain	RA, C3ER
24.	Dr. Md. Sharif	Director, BCAS

<b>25.</b>	Dr. Mahfuz Kabir	Director, BIISS
<b>26.</b>	Dr. Md. Shah Kamal Khan	Project Director, AMISDP, DAE
<b>27.</b>	Mohammad Assaduzzaman	N CC Specialist FAO
<b>28.</b>	SK. Naureen Laila	Resilient Transport Specialist, ADPC
<b>29.</b>	Md. Asadul Hoque	Resilient Assistant Specialist, ADPC
<b>30.</b>	AHM. Taslima Akhtar	Livestock specialist, ADPC
<b>31.</b>	Md. Maksudul Amin	Climate Smart Policy Analyst, ADPC
<b>32.</b>	Md. Emon Kabir Noyon	PC, ADPC
<b>33.</b>	Md. Alauddin	Office assistant, ADPC
<b>34.</b>	Md. Wahiduzzaman Sarkar	National Capacity needs assessment consultant
<b>35.</b>	Mr. Rouf Mohammad Abdur	CPL&CR, ADPC
<b>36.</b>	Mr. Abu Sumon	CPFM Specialist, ADPC
<b>37.</b>	Ms. Farzana Mahbub	JRA, ADPC
<b>38.</b>	Professor Therese Jefferson	Head of School, Curtin University, Australia
<b>39.</b>	Dr. Habib Rahman	Curtin University, Australia
<b>40.</b>	Mr. Richard Neumann	Director, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Australia
<b>41.</b>	Irfan Maqbool	Director, Risk Governance, ADPC
<b>42.</b>	Israel Jegillos	Senior Project Manager, RIG, ADPC
<b>43.</b>	Nawraj Pradhan	Climate Finance Specialist, ADPC
<b>44.</b>	Serena Amatya	Project Officer, ADPC



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