



STRENGTHENING ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE CAPACITY IN BANGLADESH

Bangladesh is faced by a number of environmental crises, including an increase in the frequency and severity of extreme climatic events, a scarcity of natural resources and the degradation of the natural environment. Combined with high rates of poverty, these heighten vulnerability to environmental shocks. To address these challenges, effective investment in the environment and forestry sectors is essential. The overall aim of the project was to strengthen human and organizational capacity in the country to deliver more effective, coordinated, sustainable and country-driven investment programmes in environmental protection, sustainable forest management, and climate change adaptation and mitigation.



WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

The project contributed to developing and strengthening the skills, processes and resources of MoEFCC and its agencies in order to improve their effectiveness, efficiency and relevance in the context of changing needs, priorities and challenges. It prepared the first Country Investment Plan (CIP) on Environment, Forestry and Climate Change (EFCC), launched in December 2017, and developed a CIP Monitoring Report. It facilitated the first steps towards the establishment of a Policy Support and Investment Monitoring Unit (PSIMU) to monitor the CIP, provide policy guidance, analyse environmental data and share findings across the relevant ministries and agencies. To further strengthen the capacities of MoEFCC and its agencies, the project launched the first digital archiving system within MoEFCC and provided MoEFCC and its agencies with the necessary hardware and software, as well as with training in their use. The project also prepared a training needs assessment and a training plan, and delivered training to over 380 officials (23 percent women) across 25 organizations.

IMPACT

The project improved environmental and forest management, and supported climate change mitigation and adaptation. "This is the first time that the different agencies under MoEFCC and other ministries/divisions have worked together and actually talked to each other and shared data," an official commented. "We are finally working under a common umbrella rather than as single agencies. The drafting of the first CIP Monitoring Report is a great achievement towards a more coordinated environmental response for the betterment of Bangladesh."

KEY FACTS

Contribution

USD 4 153 173

Duration

September 2013 – May 2018

Resource Partner

United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Partner

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)

Beneficiaries

Environment, forestry and climate change professionals, decision-makers and policy-makers, and staff of MoEFCC and its partners

ACTIVITIES

- CIP developed, approved by Prime Minister and formally launched.
- CIP Monitoring Report drafted and submitted to Government for approval.
- Formation facilitated of four technical teams composed of officials from 34 agencies linked with MoEFCC.
- Initial step towards establishment of PSIMU facilitated.
- Hardware and software provided, and officials in various agencies trained in their use.
- In-country and overseas training related to EFCC issues provided.
- First CIP Monitoring Report finalized and pending approval by MoEFCC.
- First digital archive system on forest and land records developed, tested and launched.
- Support provided to several projects by officers trained under the project.
- Five scientific documents prepared.
- Research Master Plan on EFCC approved.
- 55 organizations benefited from training to over 520 officials supported by the project.
- 145 women trained and 1 500 women involved in consultations.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Project Code

FAO: GCP/BGD/053/USA

Donor: AID-388-IO-13-00002

Project Title

Strengthening the Environment, Forestry and Climate Change Capacities of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and its Agencies

Contact

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