

Challenges in Relocating Climate Displaced People in Bangladesh: Legal and Policy Perspectives

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Structure of the presentation

- Disaster related displacement scenario in Bangladesh
- Legal and policy framework
- Challenges of relocation

Disaster related displacement scenario in Bangladesh

- Bangladesh is ranked as the seventh-riskiest nation in the Global Climate Risk Index 2021
- A recent satellite altimetry data from the Department of Environment reveals that the average sea-level rise in the coastal zone of Bangladesh is 3.8-5.8 mm/year over the last 30 years, and about 12.34%-17.95% of the coastal area will be submerged by this century.
- Significant 'hazards' that impact life and livelihood of the people of Bangladesh are 'floods; cyclones and surges; tornados; earthquakes; riverbank erosion; landslides; salinity intrusion; drought; arsenic contamination; human-induced hazards, and health hazards.'

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) data

- 101 Disaster Events Reported from 2008 – 2022
- cyclones displace internally an average of 110,000 a year.
- 426,914 people were displaced as of the end of 2021 .
- Over 7.1 million Bangladeshis were displaced by climate change in 2022, which could reach 13.3 million by 2050,
- The flash flood 2022 affected severely 7.2 million people in nine North-Eastern districts, damaging 1,133 sq. km of croplands, 44,254 water ponds, and 49,885 sanitation facilities.

Legal and policy framework

- Constitution of Bangladesh, art 8-25 (Fundamental Principles of state policy), Protection and improvement of environment and biodiversity (18A)
- Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP), 2009
- National Adaptation Plan (NAP), 2022
- Disaster Management Act, 2012
- The Standing Orders on Disaster 2019
- National Strategy on Internal Displacement Management (NSIDM) 2021
- National Plan for Disaster Management 2021-2025 (NPDM21-25)

- Bangladesh Delta Plan, 2100 (prepared in 2018)
- Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Act, 2010
- Bangladesh Climate Fiscal Framework, 2020
- National Action Plan for Clean Cooking, 2020-2030
- Plan of Action to Implement Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
- Bangladesh Energy Efficiency and Conservation Master Plan up to 2030
- Renewable Energy Policy of Bangladesh, 2008

Challenges of relocation

- Establishing Human rights-based approach
- Comprehensive normative framework
- Planned and organized relocation including pre, during, post disaster management
- Practical challenges: infrastructure, cost, public awareness, coordination, transparency and accountability