

Wasser im Klimawandel – Fluch oder Segen? Einblicke aus Bangladesch



About me

- Director at the NETZ office in Dhaka, Bangladesh
- Working with NETZ for 15 years
- Committed to the work for disadvantaged and extreme poor families
- English and Literature
- MA in Conflict Transformation at Pannasastra University in Cambodia



Januar



April



Mai



August



I. Impact of Climate Change

Rise in temperature: Drastic change of temperature; hot in the day-time and unusual cold in the evening during summer

Sea level rise: 32% of total Costal areas is under tide-excursion where 28% of total population live.

Salinization: Saline water brought to crop field and where people live . It causes health problems, makes people disabled and reduces agricultural production.

Heavy and irregular flood: Untimely and heavy rain; early monsoon.

Cold wave: Less cold in winter, shorter winter; cold during summer season; Untimely dew and thick fog

Cyclone Remal 26-28 May 2024 destroyed many houses in the coastal areas in the south-west of Bangladesh



16 people were killed

0.15m homes damaged 3
5,483 destroyed fully

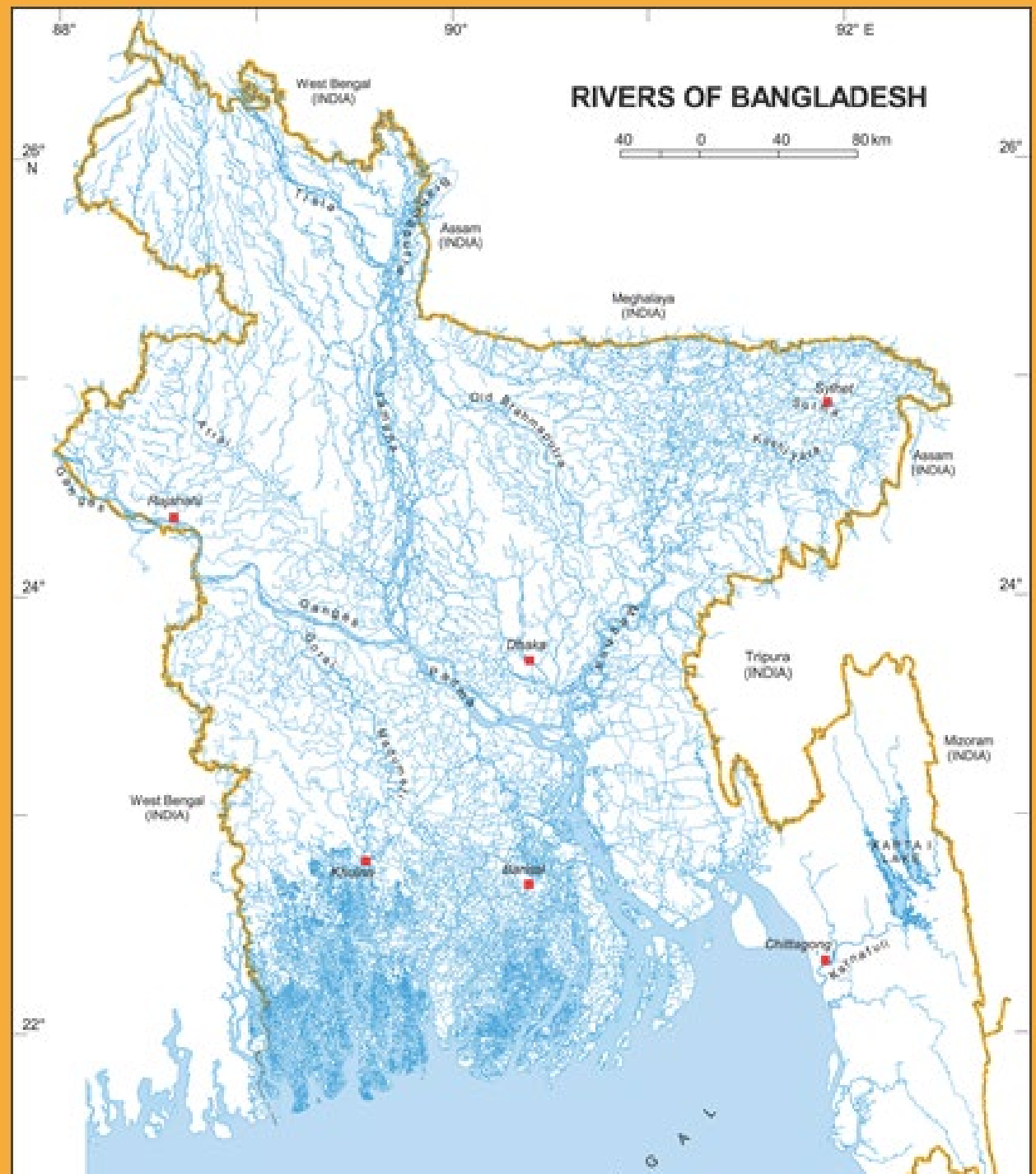
3.7m people in
19 dists. seriously
affected



Tidal surge was 10-12 feet

Wind speed 80-120km/h

This cyclone unusually
lasted for more than 36
hours



Situation in Bangladesh

- Bangladesh is one of the most climate vulnerable countries, ranking 7th according to World Climate Risk Index 2021.
- Predominantly flat, low lying and deltaic land and severely exposed to flood and cyclone
- Densely populated with about 169 million people living in a landmass of 148,460 square kilometer.
- There are 20.7% people who live under poverty line.

Situation in Bangladesh

- **In Southern** part people face disaster and shocks like flood, tide-excursion, saline water intrusion, cyclone and water logging etc.
- **Northern** part is flood-prone and river erosion area and people are affected every year.
- In places close to rivers, there are flood and erosion due to heavy rains
- In higher-up areas, there is less rain resulting to heat wave, draught and sinking of ground water level.

Shrimp farms in the coastal region of Bangladesh destroyed eco-systems in the region



People live beside the rivers and shifts houses from one place to another several times in their lifetime



Displacement due to climate change in Bangladesh

- The primary causes of climate displacement in Bangladesh are tidal height increases in the coastal areas (leading to tidal flooding) and riverbank erosion in the mainland areas
- People force to migrate due to flooding, tropical cyclones, storm surges, salinity intrusion and river-bank erosion
- The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) estimates that over 4.7 million people were displaced due to disasters in Bangladesh between 2008 and 2014
- According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), over 7.1 million Bangladeshis were displaced by climate change in 2022.









Situation in Bangladesh

- Less food production; food security is challenged.
- Extreme-poor are losing jobs; changing profession from agro-based work to temporary jobs e.g., ricksha-puller, mason, as salesman in shops.
- Seasonal migration and extreme-poor families; may have to migrate permanently to urban areas.
- Women, children and old aged people are suffering from different seasonal diseases; women's reproductive health is badly affected.
- Sweet water crisis in the coastal region and it hampers the production of agriculture and create crisis of drinking water

Situation in Bangladesh

- Less agricultural production. Untimely dew is also causing neck-blast disease to paddy and wheat resulting in no proper harvest.
- Due to erratic weather in Northern part of Bangladesh, the cropping pattern is suffering from low production.
- Due to different disaster, poverty and lack of awareness the poor people face food insecurity and malnutrition

How to adapt?

Lessons from our projects

- **Addressing marginalized and poor people** as the most vulnerable but also most experienced agents for change
- Capacity-building in climate-adaption and rights-based trainings
- Providing tools and assets for individual transformation
- Solidarity, cooperation and mutual learning in CSOs on different levels

III. Initiatives of NETZ

- Awareness and analysis
- Capacity development
- Adaptation and mitigation
- Environmental Human rights
- Research and advocacy and networking

Awareness and analysis

Climate awareness:

- Discussion in groups
- Awareness materials: leaflet, poster, booklet etc.
- Rally, public meetings, information session,
- Book reading, theatre, debate etc. by students
- Environment day, Disaster risk reduction day

Climate vulnerability & capacity analysis (CVCA):

- Involving programme participants
- CSOs prepare social map and hazard map, historical timeline of the region, seasonal crop calendar, vulnerability matrix
- Prepare adaptation plan.

Capacity development

Train on climate risk and disaster preparedness:

- Development of training module and materials
- Conduct training for CSO leaders
- CSO leaders discuss the issues with village CSO
- The village CSO prepare disaster preparedness plans.

Train on basic health including WASH:

- CSO are trained on climate hazards like, droughts, heatwaves and flood and diseases like filariasis, dengue, diarrhea, skin disease etc.
- Training on basic health practices including water, sanitation and hygiene.

Adaptation and Mitigation

Climate resilient agriculture practice:

Income generating activities like crop production, vegetable gardening, livestock and poultry farming are done considering climate context.

Vocational training:

Mobile mechanics, electric repair, tailoring for alternative livelihood options

Risk fund:

Establish rice bank, save money as risk fund



Adaptation and Mitigation (continued)

Water reservoir: Pond excavation and retention of rainwater in canals.

Raise houses to avoid flood water and water-logging in post flood time

Local road and drainage system make and repair through community initiatives.

Disaster volunteers: Trained, regular meeting to analyse, network with elected bodies. Play role in early warning and disaster response and support.

Disaster Shelter: Landfill on school grounds for shelter during floods, shifting schools during flood or erosion

Tree plantation: At HHs level, on roadside and schools.

Landfill to raise school grounds that can be used as flood shelters



Climate resilient agriculture practice for vegetable cultivation



Environmental Human Rights

- Improved cooperation of CSOs from local to national levels and with journalists to generate public discourse for influencing policies
- Capacity development of local CSOs and NGOs in the sector of Environmental Human rights
- Conflict-sensitive HRBA to address intersectional climate vulnerabilities

Research, Advocacy and Networking

Conduct Research and studies:

- Effects of Climate Change on Food Security and Livelihoods of the Marginalized Communities in the Northwestern Region of BD
- Causes of vulnerabilities, adaptation options and social conflict dynamics in the context of climate change in Bangladesh, India and Nepal.

Research, Advocacy and Networking

Local dialogue with local authorities:

CSO members share their problems and demand support like SSN, nutrition garden, vaccination, use of common properties etc.

Seminar and dialogue with policy actors:

- § Research findings are shared with relevant stakeholders including policy makes, government officials.
- § Dialogue meetings held with local government and service providers

Research, Advocacy and Networking

Networking

- NETZ became member of relevant networks like, Right to Food Bangladesh (RtF), Climate Action Network-South Asia (CANSA), Climate Justice Alliance-Bangladesh, Conflict Transformation Platform
 - Through the networks NETZ supported different climate and food security related events, enhances CSOs capacity and strategy to raise the voice of vulnerable people and establish their rights.
- E.g., Movement related to Rampal

Climate-resilient agriculture



Climate-resilient agriculture



Climate-resilient agriculture



Climate-resilient agriculture



Climate-resilient agriculture



Climate-resilient agriculture



Disaster preparedness



Disaster preparedness



Disaster preparedness



Disaster preparedness



Disaster preparedness



Disaster preparedness



Diversification of income



Video (11 minutes)



Life and hope
in a climate-hotspot of
Bangladesh

Herzlichen Dank!





Transparenz? Zu 100% bestätigt!

Seit 2002 trägt NETZ das Spendensiegel des Deutschen Zentralinstituts für Soziale Fragen (DZI).

NETZ erfüllt alle DZI-Kriterien:



- Klare und wahrheitsgemäße Werbung und Öffentlichkeitsarbeit
- Transparente Dokumentation von Mittelbeschaffung und deren Verwendung sowie der Vermögenslage
- NETZ berichtet offen und umfassend über die eigene Arbeit, Strukturen und Finanzen