

ISSUE 15

MAKING SENSE

A WEEKLY UPDATE ON POVERTY, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE
MAINSTREAMING

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Government Officers from General Economics Division (GED) will participate the upcoming seventh international conference on Community Based Adaptation (CBA7) to Climate Change. It will provide them spaces to share climate mainstreaming experience in Planning Commission and to learn the global good practices. This year CBA7 will be focused on mainstreaming community-based adaptation into international, national and local planning processes.

KEY EVENTS

POVERTY, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

Sixth Five Year Plan has set up milestones for different sectors, which are not reflected in the Development Project Proforma (DPP) of different projects. Therefore, the DPP/TPP preparation manual should provide some guideline with specific examples on how the linkages can be developed.

Dr. Shamsul Alam, Member, General Economics Division (GED)

Development of project proposals is a crucial part of development planning, which is an on going process rather than a single event. It involves several steps such as identification, appraisal, formulation, approval, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

In Bangladesh, Planning Commission is the approval authority of development projects and programmes submitted by Ministries through Development Project Proforma (DPP)/TPP. The diagram below presents the steps of project approval for Planning Commission.

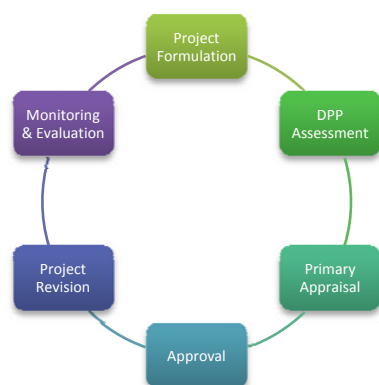


Figure 1: DPP/TPP approval process



GED has successfully integrated Poverty, Environment, Climate and Disaster (PECD) nexus issues in the Development Project Proforma (DPP), a manual is required for a clear understanding of the issues by public sector planning professionals.

In order to develop the DPP preparation manual, a kick-off meeting on Inception Report on the Poverty, Environment and Climate (PEC) inclusive DPP/TPP Preparation Manual was held in Planning Commission on 12 March 2013. Dr. Shamsul Alam, Member of the General Economics Division (GED) chaired the meeting. Representatives from Planning Commission, Economic Relation Division (ERD), Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED) participated and provided recommendations.

KEY EVENTS

NATIONAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (NTAC) MEETING

A Mid-Term Review (MTR) has been completed for PECM Project in February 2013 and a draft report has been submitted by the review team. On 13 March, 2013, the 4th NTAC meeting was held in Planning Commission to discuss the Mid-Term Review (MTR) report prepared by the consultants under the scope of the PECM Project. Dr. Shamsul Alam, Member of the General Economics Division (GED) chaired the meeting. Mr. Md. Rezaul Karim, Joint Chief of GED and the National Project Director (NPD) of the PECM Project made formal initial briefing over the purpose of the meeting.

The NTAC approved the recommendations and suggestions of the Mid-term evaluations and recommended the project to move forward to the next phase as guided by the Mid-Term Review (MTR) report.



A three-member UNDP-UNEP APRC mission visited in Bangladesh following the mid-term evaluation of PECM Project to do the next phase design. The project is coming to an end in September, 2013. The mission came to Bangladesh on 18 March, 2013. The mission members were Mr. Paul Steele, Environment Advisor-Poverty Environment Initiative (PEI), United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)-United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Asia-Pacific Poverty-Environment Team; Ms. Sujala Pant, Program Specialist, Local Governance Democratic Governance, Asia-Pacific Regional Centre, UNDP and Mr. Razi Latif, Senior Program Officer, Joint UNDP-UNEP Poverty Environment Initiative, UNDP.

The mission had meetings with Government key officials, some multilateral agencies and other stakeholders. On 21 March, 2013, the mission held a wrap-up meeting with UNDP Environment, Poverty and Governance clusters. They also met the PECM Project team in Planning Commission.

UPCOMING EVENTS

National Climate Fiscal Framework (NCFE)

A meeting of the Steering Committee formed by Ministry of Finance on formulation of National Climate Fiscal Framework (NCFE) will be held on 15 April 2013 in order to advocacy for introducing a “climate budget code” and yearly “climate budget report” by finance division budget wing. The meeting will be chaired by Mr. Ranjit Kumar Chakrabarty, Additional Secretary, MoF.

Consultation with stakeholders on Inception report of Training Impact Assessment (TIA)

Workshop on inception report on Training Impact Evaluation will be held in Planning Commission on 10th April, 2013. Based on the evaluation, General Economics Division (GED) will redesign the training curriculum for public sector planning professionals.

Partnership with Comprehensive Disaster Management Program (CDMP II)

GED will establish a partnership with CDMP II for organizing capacity building activities. CDMP II will provide technical support and GED will carry out capacity building activities. In order to do that GED and CDMP II will sign a MOU and move forward to next steps. It is targeted that 200 more planning professionals will be trained on Poverty, Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Sensitive DPP/TPP formulation.

Socio-economic Study

A socio-economic case study team has been analyzing Poverty-Environment-Climate Nexus in various ongoing development projects. The team will make a visit to the Construction/ Reconstruction of *Upazila/Union* Roads, Bridges/Culverts’ Project’ implemented by Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) in the Northern part of Bangladesh.

Local Climate Fiscal Framework (LCFF)

A decision was made in the meeting held on 12 November, 2012 to form a study team to carry out the formulation of Climate Fiscal Framework for local government. Accordingly, GED has formed a Study Team on the LCFF (on 31 Dec 2012). A checklist of necessary activities has been prepared to assist the NPD and Study Team. The first meeting of the study team will be held on 11 April 2013.

SPECIAL FEATURE

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AT LOCAL LEVEL: ONE HOUSE ONE FARM

Sanitation is one of the major challenges for Bangladesh, especially in the rural areas. Government has been taken different initiative to achieve its target of 100% sanitation coverage throughout the country. In addition, the natural disasters especially seasonal flood and cyclone in the coastal region characterized the key failure in sanitation. Sustainable sanitation practice is a must for its success requires proper selection of technologies, choice of appropriate construction materials and, campaigns of awareness and hygiene education to be adapted to the specific local context.

Appropriate technologies have the potential to maximize livelihood opportunities e.g. Ecological Sanitation and Eco-toilet offer alternative sanitation and environmental friendly waste management facilities. Although the practice is new in Bangladesh, some of the villagers are using this facility for their sanitation and farming land.

Ecological sanitation can be viewed as a three-step process dealing with human excreta: containment, sanitization and recycling in order to protect human health and the environment while reducing the use of water in sanitation systems and recycling nutrients to help reduce the need for artificial fertilizers in agriculture.

One of the major process use to destroy pathogens is dehydration which eliminating moisture from the immediate environment.

Drying materials like wood, ash and soil are added to cover the fresh excreta and increase the pH of the soil. The less moisture the better, and in most climates it is better to divert the urine and treat it separately. Two separate vaults used for urine and excreta to ensure that urine is never mixed in this toilet but continuously diverted into a separate container and later used in diluted form as plant fertilizer.

The Rural Development and Cooperatives Division with Bangladesh Rural Development Board has been implementing the One House One Farm (Ektee Bari Ektee Khamar) project all over the country in order to reduce national poverty up to 20% from 40% by 2015 making each household a sustainable income generating unit through maximizing utilization of human and economic resources.

A good and environmental friendly technology always enhance capacity and reduce vulnerability, however it takes time to ensure acceptance by the society. The eco-sanitation practice adopted by One House One Farm project is one of the sustainable practices for the low-lying coastal area. The technology requires proper demonstration and extension among the rural people. Specific agency requires training, awareness building and follow-up process.

Author: Md. Abdul Awal Sarker, Monitoring Officer, PECM Project

SPECIAL FEATURE

NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR MITIGATING SHORT-LIVED CLIMATE POLLUTANTS (SLCPS) IN BANGLADESH

Short Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCP) (black carbon, methane, troposphere ozone and some HFCs) can have harmful impacts on public health, agriculture and ecosystems and are responsible for a substantial fraction of current global warming as well as on regional climate. Fast action to reduce these pollutants has the potential to slow down the global warming expected by 2050 by 0.5C and prevent two million premature deaths each year and avoid annual crop losses over 30 million tons.

UNEP and six other countries including Bangladesh formed the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) in February 2012 to reduce (SLCP). As a part of the CCAC initiative, Bangladesh is developing a National Action Plan for SLCP. The Department of Environment, Ministry of Environment and Forest is formulating the NAP with support from Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), with technical support is being provided by BRTC and BUET in the development of NAP. The formulation of the NAP is being done through a wide stakeholder consultation process, where PECM Project also took part. It is expected that the final draft will be developed by May 2013.

The NAP formulation process undertaken by DOE will mainly aim at creating awareness about SLCP, identify major sources and estimate emissions of SLCP (LEAP-based model), identify priority measures for reducing BC and Methane and their implementation. The NAP formulation process so far has identified sector specific measures for abating the Black Carbon for the sectors of Transport, Brick Kiln, Rice Para-boiling, Residential cooking, Coal mine, Natural Gas, Wastewater, Livestock, Solid waste and Agriculture. It is expected that the Draft NAP will identify pathways to mainstream this issue into existing GOB programmes and also propose measures that would require new initiative for reduction of BC and Methane.

The major sources of air pollutants in Bangladesh such as brick kilns, diesel vehicles, and traditional cook stoves are also sources of Black Carbon. The brick industry has been rightly targeted by CCAC as an area where massive black carbon and other SLCP reduction can be made. Studies reveal that implementing more efficient technologies mainly during the firing of bricks can result in reductions in pollutant emissions of 10 to 50% depending on the process, scale and fuel used. In Bangladesh, although providing a vital source of employment, the industry is also the largest stationary source of GHG emissions in the country - emitting over 6.4 million tons annually.

Outdated and inefficient methods of production are causing growing environmental damage and contributing to climate change. UNDP is implementing an initiative to reduce emissions from Brick Industry in Bangladesh through its project "*Improving Kiln efficiency in the Brick making Industry*", where it has targeted to reduce at the end of the project energy consumption by 526,000 tonnes of coal and 1.3 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent over the fifteen year expected service life of the energy efficient kilns through promoting and demonstrating the latest energy efficient kiln technology, and removing barriers that have so far hampered adoption of cleaner and better kiln technologies.

Source:

<http://www.unep.org/ccac/> <http://www.undp.org.bd/projects/prodocs/BrickKiln/FINAL%20Brick%20kiln%20factsheet%20Mar%202011.pdf>

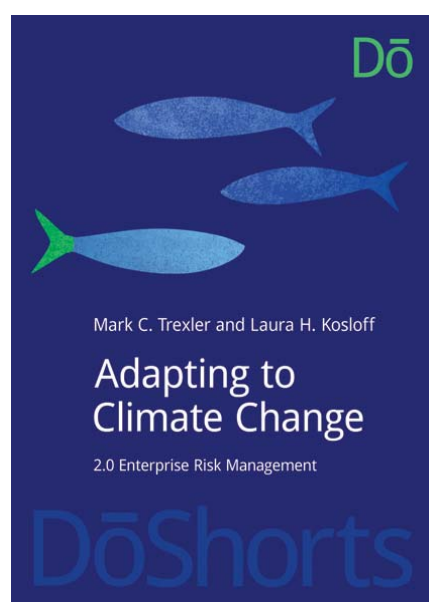
Author: Dr. Nurun Nahar, Planning Expert, PECM Project

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Adapting to Climate Change: 2.0 Enterprise Risk Management

By DR MARK TREXLER & LAURA KOSLOFF

Publication Date: March 2013



Synopsis

Adapting to Climate Change tackles two key questions facing decision makers: 1) Is adaptation worth it to me? and 2) If it is worth it, can I really tackle it? Focusing on today's weather and not tomorrow's climate leaves a lot of risk on the table, especially if the climate continues to change faster than many climate models have projected. The uncertainties associated with forecasting climate change on a timeframe and at a scale that is relevant to corporate decision making can appear daunting. It is not necessary, however, to have perfect information to advance corporate preparedness for and resilience to climate change.

Contents:

- Introduction
- Climate Change Adaptation – an Overview
What will we have to adapt to?
- Limits to Adaptation?
- Setting the Business Stage for Adaptation
- The Growing Recognition of Adaptation as a Business Need
- A Closer Look at Business Adaptation Challenges and Needs
- Barriers to Corporate Climate Change Adaptation
- Climate Change Mitigation vs. Climate Change Adaptation
- Adapting to the Weather or to Climate Change?
- What Does Adapting to Climate Change Require?
- The Basics of Forecasting Climate Change
- Addressing Forecast Uncertainty in Adaptation Planning
- Decision Making Uncertainty in Adaptation Planning
- An “Adaptive” Approach to Climate Risk Management
- Adapt to the Weather AND to Climate Change
- The Practicalities of Climate Change Adaptation Planning
- The Importance of Executive Leadership
- Conclusions

Source: <http://www.dosustainability.com/shop/adapting-to-climate-change-20-enterprise-risk-management-p-22.html>

The overall goal of this Poverty-Environment-Climate Mainstreaming (PECM) project in Bangladesh is to enhance the institutional capacity of targeted national stakeholders to integrate poverty-environment-climate linkages into national development planning process. This integration will promote more sustainable economic development in Bangladesh.

PECM is a project of General Economics Division (GED) of Planning Commission under Ministry of Planning, Government of Bangladesh. PECM is part of an Asia Pacific regional and global Poverty Environment Initiative (PEI). The project is supported by UNDP & UNDP-UNEP PEI.

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