

PEI Bangladesh

Theory of Change

2014-2017



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ASIA-PACIFIC

Context and Problem Statement

Bangladesh is a low-lying deltaic country. Its geographical location, land characteristics, multiplicity of rivers and monsoon climate render Bangladesh highly vulnerable to environmental degradation and natural disasters. The increasing frequency of environmental changes and climate change impacts in Bangladesh has resulted in human and economic losses. Without remedial actions, current growth rates would not be achieved excepting at the expense of environmental disturbance and degradation in the quality of life. Recognized as one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change and one of the poorest countries in South Asia, lowest income households are five times more vulnerable to exposure to damage and loss related to climate change than the highest income households. Hence, there is a dire need to integrate the environment, climate change and disaster risk management approach into Bangladeshi development planning and investment processes for sustainable development. However, climate change and environmental concerns of the poor are not prioritized and financed through public investments. Climate change and environmental sustainability issues were not effectively integrated in the 5-year development plans, sectoral plans and annual development budgets at central and local level, and linkages between plans and budgets need strengthening.

Barriers Analysis

1. Lack of policy coherence and coordination mechanisms between government institutions responsible for pro-poor ENR management (national level).
2. Inadequate or weak budget and financing (quantity, quality and prioritization) to promote pro-poor ENR use.
3. Weak connection between national P-E objectives and sector budget allocations, including institutional capacity and management systems for investments.

Project Objective and Assumption

Objective

Strengthen policy and technical capacity in order to implement pro-poor economic policies and shape economic growth to be socially inclusive and climate resilient.

Assumptions

Cross-sectoral coordination is essential for mainstreaming national, sector and local plans and budgets to be pro-poor and climate resilient. If technical competence of planning officials from key ministries is built and sustained then the ministries will prioritize public investment to deliver effective environment and climate change services for poverty reduction.

PEI Interventions

In response to identified challenges, PEI focuses efforts in four key areas:

Policies and guidelines improved and institutionalized to promote inclusive, climate sensitive and gender responsive 5-year plans and budgets.

Processes for strategic plans are made inclusive, climate and gender sensitive and institutionalized at all levels.

Capacity of public sector planning professionals developed at central and local to prioritize and budget pro-poor climate and environment interventions in national, sectoral and local plans and budgets.

Annual development plans and budgets of key sectors prioritize pro-poor climate change and environment actions.

Progress

Coordinated inter-ministerial consultation on Integration of SDGs into the 7th FYP and mapping of ministries for SDGs implementation to identify implementation responsibilities of ministries/agencies on each SDG target.

Mainstreamed environment and climate change issues into national development planning incorporating poverty, environment and climate change issues as a separate chapter and across key development sectors. Impacts of pro-poor environment and climate change interventions were integrated in sector strategies for agriculture, fisheries, forest, water, energy and infrastructure. P-E issues were also included in a chapter on strategy for local government and rural development.

Harmonisation between sectors of National Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance, adopting 14 uniform sectors, which is expected to improve efficiency and resource allocation with Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Management identified as a priority sector.

Development of an indicator framework for inclusive and resilient development to assist planning professionals screen proposals to encourage low emitting climate resilient development.

Facilitate design of the Development Results Framework for the 7th FYP and developed a separate chapter on Monitoring and Evaluation along with specific P-E indicators included in the development results framework.

Comprehensive training module developed for the National Academy for Planning and Development (NAPD) on Mainstreaming Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (MECCDRR).

Remaining Interventions

Implement inter-sectoral SDG/Sendai DRR monitoring framework, as a part of the 7th Five Year Plan's development results framework, through improved capacity of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) to link poverty data to environment/climate/disaster data and inform poverty reduction policies and programmes applying the Poverty Environment Accounting Framework.

Apply recommendations from policy analyses of two ecological critical areas, which could include implementing the Haor master plan and developing the Sundarban master plan.

Evaluation of NAPD training and capacity development programme to identify what improved planners ability to deliver their functions in a more pro-poor and environmentally sound manner.

Develop sector action plans, including a separate sector plan for environment and climate change that mainstreams poverty-environment into sector and local planning processes.

Strengthen the linkage between poverty and environment/ climate data in the national SDG and 7th Five Year Plan monitoring framework.

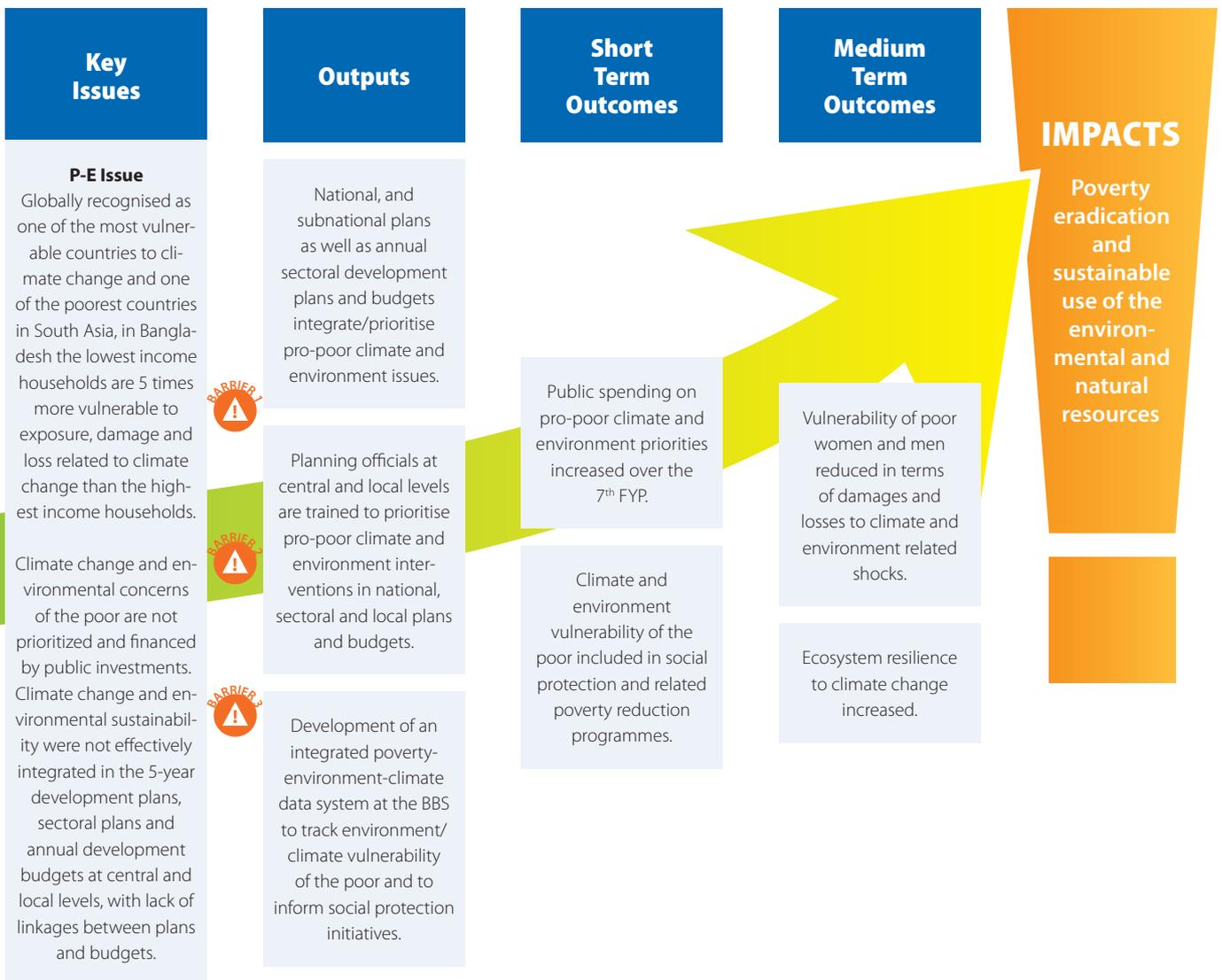
Build the partnership with BBS poverty-environment-climate nexus accounting and generating data on environment, climate and poverty.

Preparation of Bangladesh's first sector action plans to guide other sector action plans and be translated into sector Annual Development Programs, with PEI specific inputs on green financing as part of the economic governance sector action plan.

Annex: ToC Diagram

Assumptions

Cross-sectoral coordination is essential for mainstreaming national, sector and local plans and budgets to be pro-poor and climate resilient. If technical competence of planning officials from key ministries is built and sustained then the ministries will prioritize public investment to deliver effective environment and climate change services for poverty reduction.



Barriers: 1) Institutional capacity for ENR policy design and implementation 2) Inadequate coordination between NDP and subnational and sector plans and budgets 3) Budget and financing (quantity, quality, and prioritization)