

SERIES OF EVENTS FOCUSING COP26



Community Consultation
'Voices of Urban Communities for COP26'



Round Table Discussion
'Disaster Risk Governance: Need of National Urban Policy'

STATEMENTS FOR GLOBAL LEADERS

- I. Climate Change made urban dwellers suffer from Chronic Stress.
- II. Fair share of global climate compensation and climate friendly technologies are must.
- III. Preserving rights of three groups- Indigenous Communities, Women & Children are the key to establish good climate.
- IV. Comprehensive and holistic urban policies can address diverse challenges to build Climate Smart City.



Climate Justice Dialogue
'COP26: Expectation & Aspiration'



National Level Sharing
'Voices of the Urban Communities in Bangladesh for COP26'

Supported by:



VOICES OF URBAN COMMUNITIES IN BANGLADESH ON CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS



Islamic Relief's 'Climate Change Policy' is promoting both mitigation and adaptation to impacts of climate change and relevant disaster risk reduction interventions to build the resilience of communities vulnerable to the effects of climate change. To fulfill the global mandate, Islamic Relief Bangladesh (IRB) tried to capture urban voices (in Bangladesh) in September – October 2021 to know:

- i) the perceptions of communities on increasing urban hazards;
- ii) impact of adverse climatic events over communities;
- iii) hazard wise adaptation mechanisms;
- iv) community initiatives to tackle climate change impact;
- v) institutional initiatives to tackle climate change impact and
- vi) expectation from Government and International leaders.

IRB with the support of Bangladesh Model Youth Parliament, Youth Net for Climate Justice and Poribesh O Haor Unnayan Sangstha- had consultations with urban dwellers (of 10 urban areas), local government representatives, NGOs, teachers, CSOs and climate experts through four consecutive events stated earlier phases and findings are summarized as below:

CLIMATE CHANGE MADE URBAN DWELLERS SUFFER FROM CHRONIC STRESS

While humanitarian and resilience efforts are being designed for a unit hazard, urban dwellers are facing growingly consecutive climate induced urban hazards and crisis. These consecutive hazards are impacting lives & livelihoods of urban dwellers creating chronic stress. Those are significantly seen in the mega cities like Dhaka. Urban slum living climate migrants are losing their resilience far away than the rural ones. Rebuilding their resilience requires more concentrated efforts and investment.

FAIR SHARE OF GLOBAL CLIMATE COMPENSATION AND CLIMATE FRIENDLY TECHNOLOGIES ARE MUST

Impacts of climate change is already evident while poor countries like Bangladesh are suffering at far greater intensity than the industrialist first world ones, although emission rate of carbon and greenhouse gasses is higher in case of the industrialized countries. To forefront this external cause created impacts, discussions over loss & damage is being held for quite a while with very little progression on fair compensation. A fund of USD 100 billion has long been discussed to be raised. In this context, as an affected country, urban communities of Bangladesh too demand their fair share from this fund.

PRESERVING RIGHTS OF THREE GROUPS- INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES, WOMEN & CHILDREN ARE THE KEY TO ESTABLISH GOOD CLIMATE

Rain forests are called the lung of the world. In these forests, local inhabitants are indigenous people who have survived themselves for thousands of years keeping nature intact side by side. They are also called as keeper of the nature. Therefore, preservation of their rights will automatically ensure preservation of nature. Secondly, traditional roles of women and their amount of interaction with nature quite more intense compared to men. For example, responsibility of fetching clean water and such other natural resources generally falls upon women and therefore, preservation of their rights automatically results into privation of nature. Finally, following the same logic for women, it applies for the children too only in a more intensified manner. Moreover and utmost importantly, such preservation of children's rights will automatically make them aware about the importance and blessings of a human friendly climate and thus, a climate concerned generation will take the control in future. Therefore, preservation of these three group are crucially important for preservation of nature.

COMPREHENSIVE AND HOLISTIC URBAN POLICIES CAN ADDRESS DIVERSE CHALLENGES TO BUILD CLIMATE SMART CITY

The dilemma of urbanization in respect to nature and civilization is, despite urbanization (especially the unplanned ones) affect the nature inevitably, civilization always move towards urbanization. Therefore, for a check and balance between these two, a holistic nature oriented urban policy is quite a useful instrument and presence of which generally results into addressing diverse challenges to build smart cities.