

Project Progress Report

Stories of Change
Rifat Abrar Anik & Abul Bashar Rahman
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Project info

The "Stories of Change" project embarked on a mission to highlight the resilience and challenges faced by communities in Bangladesh due to climate change. Through a multifaceted approach involving a documentary film, the Climate Atlas, and extensive fieldwork across multiple districts, we aimed to foster empathy and action towards climate justice globally. The result of it was a climate atlas (<https://atlas.storiesofchange.co/>) & a documentary film (Private Link: <https://youtu.be/WzNvRHq39mE>).

Objectives of the Project

- To document and share the resilience stories of individuals across Bangladesh.
- Develop and disseminate the Climate Atlas as a comprehensive resource on climate resilience.
- Produce and screen a documentary film to showcase the human face of climate change in Bangladesh.

The CAP-RES project has three objectives as follows:

Objective 1: Create enabling environment and foster individuals to enhance their knowledge of climate change issues and develop their problem-solving skills

Objective 2: Generate factual evidence from local practices to scale up at the global level.

Objective 3: Improve institutional efficiency and effectiveness in decision-making and putting into practice in climate intervention.

Based on these above objectives which one is more relevant to your project? How your project activities achieved this objective? (Maximum 200 words)

The "Stories of Change" project aligns most closely with Objective 2: Generate factual evidence from local practices to scale up at the global level. Our initiative has been pivotal in collecting, documenting, and showcasing the resilience and adaptability of communities across Bangladesh in the face of climate change. Through our extensive fieldwork, storytelling, and the creation of the Climate Atlas and documentary film, we have gathered compelling evidence of local practices and solutions that contribute to climate resilience. This evidence has been meticulously compiled and presented in a format that is accessible and engaging to a global audience, thereby fulfilling the objective of scaling up local practices to the global level. By sharing these stories and data, we aim to inspire similar adaptive strategies in other vulnerable regions worldwide, advocate for informed policy-making, and encourage the allocation of climate finance to where it's most needed. Our project activities have not only highlighted the effectiveness of grassroots strategies in combating climate change but have also provided a blueprint for replication, thereby contributing to a more resilient global community.

Team Composition

Team & Supporters: 30

Name:

1. Kalam Azad (Team Logistics)
2. Umme Hani Lamiya (Co-ordinator)
3. Neelim Novo (Team Data)
4. Fardin Kabir (Team Film)
5. Samiur Rahman (Team Film)
6. Mashrur Rahman (Team Film)
7. Sadman Munir Neehal (Team Logistics)
8. Tasfia Tahiya (Team Data)
9. Fatin Anwar (Team Data)

10. Tonima Zaman Zeba (Co-ordinator)
11. Ittesaf Ithun (Team Logistics)
12. Tanvir Ishtiaq (Team Data)
13. Usraat Fahmidah (Team Social)
14. Ishmam Alvee (Manager)
15. Moinul Islam (Team Data)
16. Tanveer Arpon (Team Logistics)
17. Samir Ehsan Hoque (Team Logistics)
18. Shafkat Shafiq (Co-ordinator)
19. Senin Chowdhury (Co-ordinator)
20. Samiha Binte Hassan (Team Tech)
21. Mahak Dugar (Team Logistics)
22. Amritabha Guha (Team Logistics)
23. Paige Hunter (Team Fund)
24. Arafat Zaman (Co-ordinator)
25. Farhan Mahmud (Team Logistics)
26. Moontakim Hassan (Team Design)
27. Tareq Rahman (Team Data)
28. Tasmia Tabassum (Co-ordinator)
29. Rifat Abrar Anik (Project Lead)
30. Abul Bashar Rahman (Project Lead)

Male: 21

Female: 9

Location

Nationwide coverage across Bangladesh, from Tetulia to Teknaf.

Reached people (Direct and indirect)

Direct Reached People: Over a thousand delegates at the 29th United Nations Climate Change Conference and other screenings in Canada, Bangladesh, and beyond.

Indirect Reached People: Estimated thousands through online platforms, including the project website and social media channels.

Summary findings

The project successfully captured and shared the untold stories of resilience and adaptation in the face of climate change in Bangladesh. The Climate Atlas and the documentary film were key outputs that have significantly contributed to raising global awareness and empathy towards the climate vulnerabilities faced by marginalized communities in Bangladesh.

Describing findings of the project

Describe the progress/findings of your project

Phase one of "Stories of Change" concluded with the global unveiling of the Climate Atlas and documentary film at a major international climate conference, engaging a vast audience and stimulating conversations about climate justice and resilience. This phase laid a strong foundation for ongoing and future initiatives aimed at closing the empathy gap and mobilizing support for climate-affected communities.

Measuring Progress

How many project activities you have done? (These might be workshops, focus groups, or performances, etc). Please list all of these

- Completion and global screening of the documentary film.
- Development and online launch of the Climate Atlas.
- Direct engagement with 1000 delegates at the UN Climate Change Conference.
- Initiation of a fellowship program to support youth-led climate justice projects.

Identifying new skills and where to learn more

What are the most useful skills or practices that you learned? Which do you use most often?

The project team developed skills in storytelling, digital content creation, and project management. Continuous learning through online platforms, workshops, and climate conferences will further enhance our expertise in these areas.

What knowledge or skills do you think would have improved your project?

The project could have significantly benefited from enhanced expertise in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and access to early-stage funding. Mastery in GIS would have enabled a more precise mapping of climate impacts and resilience practices across Bangladesh, enriching the Climate Atlas with detailed spatial analysis. This skillset would have facilitated a deeper understanding of climate vulnerabilities and the effectiveness of local adaptation strategies. Furthermore, securing funding at an earlier phase would have accelerated project activities, from fieldwork to the development and dissemination of our documentary and atlas. Early financial support would have also expanded the project's scope, allowing for broader community engagement and a more extensive collection of resilience stories, ultimately amplifying our impact on global climate change awareness and action.

What are the challenges/Risks you faced during the project activities? How you overcome/minimize those challenges?

Challenges included logistical issues during fieldwork and ensuring the film's impactful presentation at a global conference. Solutions involved meticulous planning, leveraging local networks for support, and utilizing digital platforms for broader dissemination.

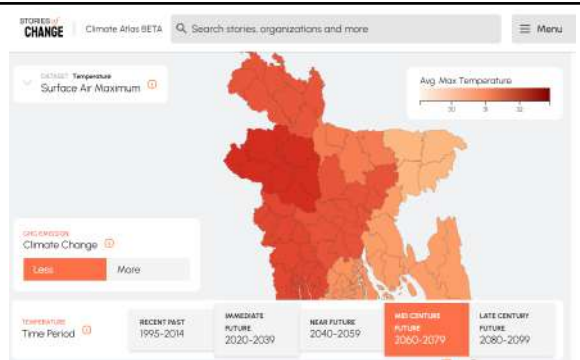
Write down the "lesson-learn" of your project

A key lesson learned is the power of storytelling in bridging the gap between different worlds - those experiencing climate change firsthand and those who can help make a difference. Engaging narratives and visual storytelling are essential tools in climate communication and advocacy.

Add most relevant photos of your activities with captions (not more than 4).



Bashar at the Canadian Premiere after a wonderful reception



Climate Atlas - the visualization tool



Stories of Change crew documenting Sunamganj



Rifat presenting at COP28

Write a feedback on this innovation fund. (Write a paragraph within 400 words)

The ICCCAD Youth Fellowship Program provided invaluable support, enabling us to amplify the voices of those at the frontline of climate change in Bangladesh. The initiative's flexibility allowed for creative storytelling and impactful engagement strategies. Future improvements could include more targeted support for project scalability and greater outreach to ensure these critical stories reach even wider audiences.