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Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Proceedings Report

ANNUAL THEMATIC MEETING OF THE



PLATFORM ON DISASTER DISPLACEMENT



**Striving Together For Addressing Displacement Due
To Slow And Sudden-Onset Disasters**

24-25 February 2019
Dhaka, Bangladesh



PLATFORM
ON DISASTER
DISPLACEMENT
FOLLOW-UP TO THE NANSSEN INITIATIVE



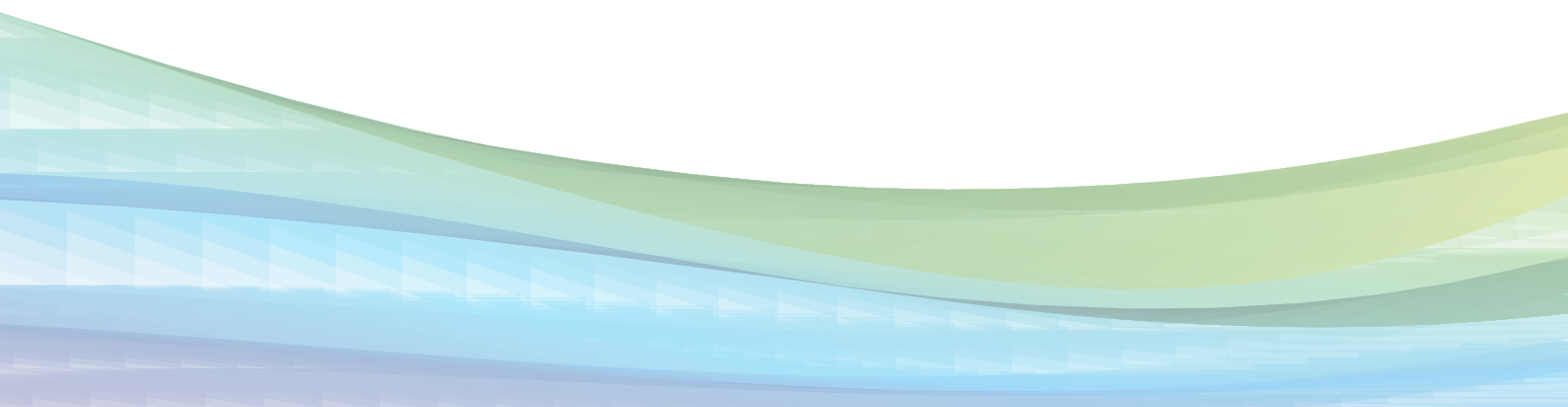
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Proceedings Report

Annual Thematic Meeting of the Platform on Disaster Displacement

Striving Together For Addressing Displacement Due To Slow And
Sudden-Onset Disasters

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Dhaka, Bangladesh



Background

Displacement due to slow and sudden-onset disasters has been recognized as one of the main humanitarian challenges of the 21st century. Although this is not a new phenomenon, sudden-onset and slow-onset disasters, the adverse effects of climate change and environmental degradation, have received increased attention in recent decades as drivers of human mobility, including displacement, migration and planned relocation. The urgency of addressing climate change and the ever-more visible effects it has on people's lives fueled increased attention in the topic at national, regional and international levels.

The Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) is a State-led initiative which was launched by the Governments of Germany and Bangladesh as a successor to the Nansen Initiative during the World Humanitarian Summit held in Istanbul in May 2016. The PDD has a Steering Group composed of 17 States and the European Union and an Advisory Committee with over 100 organizations and experts from around the world.

The PDD aims to strengthen the protection of persons displaced across borders in the context of disasters, including those linked to the adverse effects of climate change, and to prevent and reduce disaster displacement risks. It has put its efforts in building partnerships among policymakers, practitioners and researchers as well as in constituting a multi-stakeholder forum for dialogue, policy development and implementation at the national and regional level to strengthen protection people displaced in the context of disasters and the adverse effects of climate change.



A hospital and bridge eroded away by river bank erosion

The Platform is focused on implementing the recommendations of the 'Protection Agenda', a toolbox to better prepare for displacement and respond to situations when people are forced to find refuge within their own country or across the borders.

Bangladesh assumed the Chairmanship of the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) in January 2018 from Germany. As part of Chair's responsibility, Bangladesh is hosting the "Annual Thematic Meeting of the PDD" in Dhaka on 24-25 February 2019 to bring attention to, and form a joint understanding on how to address the challenges of human mobility in the context of sudden- and slow-onset disaster events linked to natural hazards and the adverse effects of climate change.

Under the leadership of the member states, the multi-stakeholder PDD is built on three pillars: a Steering Group, an Advisory Committee, and a Coordination Unit. Following the assumption of the Chairmanship, Bangladesh has been active in infusing dynamism to the platform. The Meeting will draw on experiences from South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific to inform global policy processes as well as regional and national activities to address disaster displacement.

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List of Abbreviations

ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AMCDRR	Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction
APRRN	Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network
BIMSTEC	Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation
COAST	Coastal Association for Social Transformation Trust
COP	United Nations Climate Change Conference/ Conference of the Parties
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DTM	Displacement Tracking Matrix
GCM	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
GCR	Global Compact on Refugees
GFMD	Global Forum on Migration and Development
ICCCAD	International Centre for Climate Change and Development
ICIMOD	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
IDMC	Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
INHURED	International Institute For Human Rights, Environment And Development
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MICIC	Guidelines to Protect Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
PDD	Platform on Disaster Displacement
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
RCP	Regional Consultative Process on Migration
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TFD	Task Force on Displacement
UN	United Nations
UNFCCC	United Nation's Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
WIM	Warsaw International Mechanism
WHS	World Humanitarian Summit

Executive Summary

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh, as the Chair of the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD), convened an Annual Thematic Meeting of the Platform on Disaster Displacement – ‘Striving together for addressing displacement due to slow and sudden onset disasters’, on 24 February 2019 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

More than 150 participants, including representatives from PDD’s Steering Group, from regional and international organizations, United Nations (UN) agencies, civil society and academia, gathered at the occasion.

The meeting was graced with the presence of Hon’ble Foreign Minister H.E. Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen, Member of Parliament (MP) as the Chief Guest; Mr. Md. Nojibur Rahman, Principal Secretary to the Hon’ble Prime Minister as the Guest of Honour; Mr. Md. Shah Kamal, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief as the Special Guest. Hon’ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs H.E. Mr. Shahriar Alam, MP and Hon’ble State Minister for Disaster Management and Relief H.E. Dr. Md. Enamur Rahman, MP were present during the closing ceremony. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Md. Shahidul Haque, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



Glimpses of the conference

The meeting had the objectives to

- a. analyze the effects of sudden-onset events like tropical cyclone, tidal bore, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide etc. on human mobility and the ways and means of further enhancing preventive, adaptive and mitigation policies related to such mobility for better protection of displaced persons or persons at risk of displacement.
- b. analyze the effects of slow-onset events like sea level rise, river erosion, flood, drought etc. on human mobility and the ways and means of further enhancing living conditions of displaced persons by ensuring preventive, adaptive and mitigation policies related to such mobility.
- c. examine how sudden and slow onset events are interrelated and at times not fully distinguishable from each other, and thus the needs of identical and different approaches for different types of natural events and subsequent human mobility, to ensure better protection for displaced population and persons at risk of displacement.

The meeting concluded with a presentation of the Chair’s Summary, by H.E. Shahidul Haque. As PDD is entering its next phase, the strategic priorities for 2019-2022 will build on achievements made so far by PDD and the Nansen Initiative, in collaboration with its partners. DRR, migration and refugee policy and climate change action will be the main focus, in particular at the regional level, where PDD will be supporting the implementation of global commitments. Bangladesh will pass on the chairmanship to France in July 2019, but will continue to remain committed to PDD and take forward the work at the regional level.

The Annual Thematic Meeting was preceded by a civil society meeting convened by the Coastal Association for Social Transformation Trust (COAST) Bangladesh on 23 February 2019, gathering representatives of Bangladesh’s civil society and representatives from research communities and Universities and the participants in the PDD meeting. Sunday 24 February 2019 was the main day of the Annual Meeting, followed by a field trip to Shariatpur on Monday 25 February.

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Civil Society Meeting

The Civil Society Meeting was organized by **COAST Bangladesh**.

The meeting was chaired by **Dr. Atiq Rahman of the Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies** and moderated by **Mr. Rezaul Karim Chowdhury of COAST**. Chief Guest of the seminar was **H.E. Mr. Shahidul Haque, Foreign Secretary, Government of Bangladesh** and Special Guest was **Prof. Walter Kaelin, the Envoy of the Chair of PDD**.

The meeting was attended by the participants of the Annual Thematic Meeting alongside representatives of Bangladesh's civil society.

Speakers included Dr. Monjur Hannan Khan, Additional Secretary, Md Mohsin, Additional Secretary, Mr. Steven Corliss, Country Representative from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Mr. Giorgi Gigauri, Country Representative from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Ms. Michelle Klein Solomon of IOM, Dr. Ainun Nishat of BRAC University, Ms. Farah Kabir of Action Aid Bangladesh, Dr. Mahbuba Nasreen of Dhaka University, Mr. Nayeem Gowhar Warha of the Disaster Forum and Mr. Gopal Krishna Siwakoti of the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN).

Mr. Syed Aminul Haque from COAST gave a key note presentation stating that there are per year more than one million climate or disaster related displacements in Bangladesh, with already about 63% of all coastal areas at risk of displacement. In the future, this is expected to increase due to the increased frequency of slow and rapid onset disasters. Hence COAST Bangladesh calls for a legally binding compact on cross border disaster displacement and implementation of the so-called 'polluter pays principle'.

Ms. Farah Kabir, Action Aid Bangladesh Country Director and member of PDD's Advisory Committee, urged to recognize the specific roles, capacities and vulnerabilities of women and children and stressed the need for better data on disaster displacement. **The representatives of UNHCR and IOM** explained that the topic of disaster displacement was included in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) and the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), which now needs to be implemented at the national level.

Foreign Secretary Shahidul Haque committed Bangladesh to continue to work in different international policy processes, including in the Human Rights Council, to promote the rights and address the protection needs of disaster and climate displaced persons.

Civil society participants stressed the enormous challenges that especially river erosion and slow onset events such as salinization are causing to Bangladesh's population already. To a certain extent, disaster risk reduction (DRR) measures could help prevent and prepare disaster displacement and the government of Bangladesh is already making great strides in DRR and Climate Change adaptation efforts, but international cooperation will be needed. People live in hazardous areas because they have no choice to settle elsewhere. Urban disaster displacement will grow, ultimately these are development challenges.

The pre-meeting highlighted the key role of civil society to work together with governments at the national and subnational levels to support the implementation of global and regional policy frameworks such as the GCM and GCR, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework) and decisions in the climate change negotiation, including decisions by the Conference of the Parties (COP).

The **Envoy of the Chair, Prof. Kaelin**, acknowledged the crucial role of civil society in this multi-stakeholder endeavor. He explained the available policy options based on the toolbox of the Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda to reduce the hazards as well as the exposure and vulnerability of populations to disasters and disaster displacement. He closed by giving an outlook of the work of the PDD in the upcoming 2019-2022 Strategic Framework which is currently under development. It will be important for all actors to work together in keeping disaster displacement up on the international agenda.

Annual Thematic Meeting

2.1 Opening Ceremony

Mr. Michael Schultheiss, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany and Previous Chair of PDD, described disaster displacement to be among the top challenges of the 21st century and referred to important global frameworks such as the GCM, the TFD (Task Force on Displacement) and others in addressing this important issue. As PDD's first Chair (2016-2017), Germany remains committed to supporting PDD and its work to prevent disaster displacement, reduce disaster displacement risk and protect disaster displaced persons. In the future, PDD should engage more at the regional level and link up to processes addressing internal and cross-border disaster displacement. Risk finance, insurance and resilience strategies are important means to that end. The support of countries to PDD needs to be broadened.

H.E. Ms. Marie Annick Bourdin, Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of France and Vice-Chair of PDD recognized the urgency to address disaster displacement given recent trends and forecasts and the importance to engage at the regional level. The policy areas of humanitarian, migration, climate change action and DRR have seen advances in addressing disaster displacement at the international level. Partnerships with IOM, UNHCR and civil society organizations will be important in going ahead, for the needed experience sharing among partners. PDD's base will need to be broadened to more partners.

Ms. Michele Klein Solomon, Director (Global Compact for Migration), Office of the Director General, International Organization for Migration (IOM) applauded Bangladesh's exemplary leadership in awareness raising on climate change, environmental degradation and human mobility. IOM lends support to the implementation of the Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda, an important toolbox in addressing gaps in international law. IOM has been working with governments and vulnerable populations around the world for many years to reduce risks and create conditions in which people are not compelled to leave their homes as well as provide protection and assistance to those displaced. This is in line with the approach of the PDD. A



Guests at the inaugural ceremony of the conference

A greater sense of solidarity among governments to address cross-border disaster-displacement is needed. Migration is an important adaptation strategy to anticipate the effects of degradation, exacerbated by climate change, so people can move out of harm's way through planned migration programmes. The voices of civil society as first responders are extremely important. For the first time, global frameworks (Sendai Framework, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development [2030 Agenda], United Nation's Framework Convention on Climate Change [UNFCCC], GCM and GCR) take human mobility and climate change into account. Bangladesh is particularly affected by climate change. Slow onset events have not been sufficiently addressed yet by the international community and deserve greater attention.

Mr. Ovais Sarmad, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNFCCC Secretariat, highlighted the efforts made so far by PDD on disaster displacement. 2018 has been an important year, thanks to the contributions of those present at this meeting, to develop important milestones such as the GCM and GCR, building on the Paris Agreement and others. COP24 adopted a set of recommendations that shall help countries address climate change impacts including on human mobility. Bangladesh shows exemplary leadership, including through the work of its civil society. The human cost of climate impacts is huge, especially on vulnerable families and women. The likelihood of being displaced by disasters has doubled since the 1970s and there is agreement among scientists that climate change will continue to displace people, unless we take preventive and adaptive action, reduce risk and build resilience. The Paris Agreement is important in that it unites nations in the global goal of reaching climate neutrality, complementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Climate action in places like Bangladesh is not only a way to avert and minimize disaster displacement but a way to deliver a sustainable future. In the next years, PDD can make a significant contribution by helping countries to make efforts to avert, minimize and address disaster displacement. PDD can provide input to the extended mandate of the TFD and it can support parties in the implementation of the TFD's recommendations. Furthermore, PDD can promote policy coherence between the GCM and GCR, the SDGs, the New Urban Agenda, the Sendai Framework etc., with the support of the UNFCCC. Action and support at the regional and national levels will be crucial.

Mr. Md. Shah Kamal, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Government of Bangladesh, pointed out that Bangladesh, as a disaster prone country and vulnerable to climate change, suffers from displacement in the context of extreme events every year. Displacement affects social and economic factors and is multidimensional. Needs assessments after displacement are important. More discussions are needed to address disaster displacement at the regional and national levels in Asia. Bangladesh has developed a number of effective practices to contribute and share with other countries.

Mr. Md. Nojibur Rahman, Principal Secretary, Prime Minister's Office, Government of Bangladesh stated that, back in 1974 Bangladesh declared its special stake in seeking an institutional arrangement by which the international community can prevent calamities. The creation of UNFCCC and others followed this plea. Bangladesh engages in the Climate Vulnerable Forum. Bangladesh addresses internal displacement and gives shelter to refugees. Strides at poverty reduction are often hampered by disaster displacement. Better preparedness and resilience planning can make a difference. Bangladesh has learned to live with disasters and its DRR strategies are a model for other countries. At the recent Munich Security Conference, mention was made of a new 'climate passport' regime. It is important to connect PDD to other processes in Bangladesh.

H.E. Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen, Hon'ble Foreign Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh, pointed out the need to design and develop joint solutions for displacement, which is likely to grow given exacerbation of disasters and climate change. Climate change is indeed one of the most serious challenges that humanity has ever faced, contributing to hunger and poverty and losses of life and development. In Dhaka, nearly one third of the 19 million inhabitants are "floating populations", with their cultivable lands washed away. A one meter rise of sea level in Bangladesh will leave 20-30 million people without homes and jobs. 800 million people of South Asia will be affected if current trends are not reversed. He also pointed out that Bangladesh is already considered as a role model in the management of natural disasters. Bangladesh has also achieved commendable success in mitigating of and adapting with the climate change related challenges. As climate disasters cause huge economic losses in Bangladesh, hence new ways are explored to deal with climate change such as resilient crops and Delta Plans. Since origins of the natural disasters and climate change are global, their solution and management would also have to be global. Bangladesh is open to any initiative at the regional and global level dealing with the impacts of climate change.

2.2 Session: Report on the pledges, status of implementation of various commitments made by the member states and way forward for sustainable living

This session was moderated by H.E. Mr. Shahidul Haque, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh.

Mr. Atle Solberg, Head of the PDD Coordination Unit, reported that PDD was launched at the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) 2016. It is a state-led platform and its Steering Group is composed of 17 States and the EU. The Advisory Committee is composed of representatives from civil society, the UN, regional entities as well as academia and experts on the issue. He further explained that a key objective is to implement the Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda, a toolbox with effective practices on addressing disaster displacement, which was the result of the Nansen Initiative consultative process. PDD worked to achieve four Strategic Priorities between 2016-2019: address knowledge and data gaps; enhance the use of identified effective practices; promote policy coherence; promote policy and normative development in gap areas.



Reporting on the pledges and status of implementation of various commitments

The Envoy of the Chair, Prof. Walter Kaelin, looked back at the first phase of PDD (the Nansen Initiative) which was mainly about conceptualizing the issue with the help of regional consultations. Back then, it was asked when and under what circumstances persons are displaced, namely when they are exposed and vulnerable to a hazard. We can try to reduce the hazard through climate change adaption; we can try to reduce exposure through migration as adaptation and relocation. We can reduce displacement risks through DRR and the implementation of the SDGs. This leads to a toolbox approach, with tools to help people to stay and help people to move out of harm's way as well as protect those displaced.

Phase Two began with the launch of the PDD at the WHS. This phase was about seeking to implement the Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda, including framing and feeding messages into relevant global policy processes.

Now, PDD moves into phase 3 and is developing a new strategy for the next three years. It will continue to focus on addressing data and knowledge gaps, and promote and support implementation of effective practices to prevent and address disaster displacement. At the global level, PDD will attempt to keep the issue on the international agenda. The Sendai Framework, the GCM and GCR and the UNFCCC have included and mainstreamed the challenges of human mobility in the context of disasters and the adverse effects of climate change, but they are global policy agendas with many different and competing issues and priorities. Unless there is a strong, joined-up push, the issue risks dropping of the agenda. At the global level, implementation now has to start within the framework of the follow up mechanisms to these global agendas. The focus of work for PDD will be on the GCM and GCR, the Sendai Framework and the UNFCCC. PDD will invest more at the regional level, building on its work in the Pacific region, Central and South America as well as Eastern Africa, with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD). PDD explores to what extent it can engage in other regions such as West Africa and the Caribbean, Asia remaining an important region.

It will be important to broaden support to outside PDD's Steering Group. A Group of Friends in Geneva and New York will be created allowing for a wider circle of States to support the work of PDD. PDD will continue to work with civil society, academia and partners such as IOM and UNHCR. Enhancing these partnerships is another strategic goal of PDD in its third phase. Policy coherence at all levels and across silos is much needed, including at the regional level.

From the floor, **the United Nations Development Programme** welcomed the prevention focus of PDD. They sought clarity on early warning of rurally displaced populations and whether practices and knowledge would be available from PDD.

The Bangladesh Academic Training Center asked about training and research provided by PDD.

UNHCR said they were very pleased for PDD to continue its work and will continue to partner with PDD, particularly in nexus situations, where the GCM and GCR come together. A joint letter to staff of both IOM and UNHCR had gone out recently to emphasize collaboration of both organizations on these issues in the implementation of the two Global Compacts.

The Envoy clarified that PDD is not an operational agency but has done work around early warning systems such as in the development of a Words into Action Guide on “Disaster displacement: How to reduce risk, address impacts and strengthen resilience”. Training and research are indeed important and a number of activities have been conducted together, especially with IOM and UNHCR. PDD welcomes the joint letter sent to IOM and UNHCR as a basis for the work to come in the implementation of the two Global Compacts and on climate and disaster displacement.

2.3 Thematic Session 1: Displacement Impacts of Sudden-Onset Events in Asia Pacific: Preventive, Adaptive and Responsive Action

This session was moderated by **H.E. Mr. Shameem Ahsan, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh, Geneva**, who highlighted elements from the earlier sessions about the work done by Bangladesh to address disaster displacement.

Ms. Loata Tute Vakacegu, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Rural & Maritime Development, National Disaster Management & Meteorological Services from the Government of Fiji, presented their experiences on localizing relevant strategies. They screened a video about cyclone Winston hitting during a moment when a community was being relocated. Internal displacement both due to slow and sudden onset disasters is an issue in Fiji. At COP24, Fiji's Planned Relocation Guidelines were launched. The government takes an integrated approach to planned relocation, involving public and private partners and based on a robust consultation process. The different stakeholders and their responsibilities in the planned relocation process are clearly listed. Currently, they are revising their disaster risk management strategy. A number of cross cutting issues are of relevance, such as gender, capacity building, protection of vulnerable groups, knowledge management, environmental awareness etc. Fiji is now working on a new humanitarian policy, on a centralized database system, on the review of its national disaster legislation and on developing Standard Operation Procedures in support of implementation of the Planned Relocation Guidelines.

Mr. Brian Todd Wittbold, Regional Programme Advisor, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), explained the work of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, providing consolidated estimates on displacements around the world and trends analysis to inform policy makers and operational agencies. At the global level, IDMC captured 1500 disaster events in more than 142 countries in 2017. Weather related hazards triggered the vast majority of displacement, mainly floods and storms. Developed countries can be equally vulnerable to the effects of disasters linked to natural hazards. Around 25 million people are displaced each year. Most disaster displacement occurs internally and less across national boundaries. The risk of disasters is primarily socially constructed, rather than being a natural phenomenon that cannot be avoided. We can do a lot to reduce the impacts and prevent disasters from happening. There is a new way of thinking about disaster risk, that there are ways to mitigate hazards and to reduce exposure and vulnerability of people. 73% of disaster displacement happens across Asia-Pacific, which is prone to natural hazards but where vulnerabilities are also high, including through: population growth and urbanization, economic growth and an unequal distribution of wealth; relatively little spending on DRR compared to disaster response; conflict exacerbating vulnerability. Sudden onset disasters triggered most disaster displacement in Asia Pacific.

Ms. Maria Moita (Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, IOM Bangkok) gave an overview of IOM's work in dealing with displacement in the context of disasters and outlined how IOM works with member states in operational, coordination and policy work.

There are existing coordination mechanisms such as the Camp Coordination and Camp Management cluster which deals with displacement situations, not just in camps. IOM leads this cluster in disasters and UNHCR leads it in conflict situations. People displaced outside of camps or camp-like settings also receive support. IOM has adopted a Migration Crisis Operational Framework applicable during and after crises. IOM assists States to manage displacement as camp management agency, in carrying out specific support and providing capacity building. IOM regards the displacement cycle as made up by preparedness, response and durable solutions.

An important global tool is the Comprehensive Guide for Planning Mass Evacuations in Natural Disasters (MEND Guideline) that helps address the issue of mass evacuation in the context of disasters. A toolkit for Camp Management guides the whole cycle of camp management. There are also guidelines for urban displacement. In its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), IOM operates at the global level and shares data with IDMC. In Vanuatu, IOM helped the government address displacement after cyclone Pam. The government now developed its National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-Induced Displacement, 'Towards a durable solution for people affected by displacement in Vanuatu'.



Participants discussing on the sidelines of the event

Mr. Ezekiel Simperingham (International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Asia Pacific Regional Office, Malaysia) explained that the IFRC supports national societies in 191 countries, 38 of which in Asia Pacific. Addressing humanitarian needs of migrants and displaced people is a global priority for the IFRC. IFRC recently published a report on "Disasters and Displacement in a Changing Climate" looking at trends and dynamics in the region highlighting initiatives around prevention, preparedness, recovery, response and the attainment of durable solutions. IFRC has worked recently in Cox's Bazar on disaster preparedness. There are circa one million displaced persons and refugees in Cox's Bazar today. This is one of the most complex and challenging humanitarian crises in this region in the past decades because of the scale and speed of displacement but also because of the high vulnerabilities of the populations there. This area of Bangladesh is prone to cyclones and monsoons; the terrain is steep and flood-prone. At least 80% of the shelter would need to be upgraded to withstand the monsoon season. There is a cyclone preparedness programme for which volunteers are trained in preparedness, community risk assessments, first aid and early warning protocols. IFRC in Asia has also recently worked on earthquake response in Lombok and Sulawesi. A displacement adviser has been deployed for one month as part of an integrated assessment team. There is a need for a better understanding of needs and prospects of large number of displaced persons, the locations where they were living, in their own gardens, in camps, with families or in other parts of Indonesia or even overseas. More than 95% of the displaced lived in less than a kilometer from their home. Host communities are a critical resource and need to be supported better. There is a need to monitor immediate onward movement post disaster and to track populations to see who is able to return and when. IFRC recommends to complement important global, regional and national initiatives with community perspectives, knowledge and strength. Capacity building of local actors and communities is important. There is a need for a holistic approach. Often, large international disasters receive attention, analysis and resources but the effects of small and medium scale disasters on people can be just as important and do not obtain these resources.

Mr. Md. Shah Kamal (Senior Secretary, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Government of Bangladesh) reported how Bangladesh suffers especially from river bank erosion. Flood, drought and salinity also affect wide parts of the country. Bangladesh experiences permanent migration to urban centers in the context of disasters and climate change. Unplanned settlements and infrastructure pose particular problems. Some areas suffer from drought, others from landslides and earthquakes, coastal areas from storm surge and tidal effects, salinity intrusion etc.

Bangladesh experiences losses of land, economic losses and displacement due to disasters every year. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Fourth Assessment Report expects 150 to 200 million people to be displaced by 2050 globally, of which 20 million in Bangladesh. Bangladesh estimates the most severe impact of displacement especially in urban areas and affecting women considerably as those staying behind with men moving away. Host communities will be strained receiving displaced populations in the context of disasters and climate change.

In the pre-displacement phase, Bangladesh has strengthened its early warning/forecasting mechanisms and promotes resilient livelihoods. In the displacement phase, response considers the special needs of vulnerable groups and reports data to the DTM. Post-displacement, Bangladesh works to support local integration as well as resettlements, including in reclaimed lands from rivers and coastal regions. Bangladesh also supports livelihoods for displaced people, notably in agriculture, fishing and handicrafts. The future focus of work will be on the implementation of DRR strategies and the migration/ displacement strategies.



Experts making remarks on the displacement impact of sudden onset events

From the floor, the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (**ICIMOD**) commented on NRC's statement that disasters are primarily social by contrasting that glacial melt in the Himalaya is clearly related to global warming, hence making it a global responsibility to address this phenomenon. The **Independent University of Bangladesh** shared observations from floods in Bangladesh and enquired about management of transboundary rivers in cooperation with Bangladesh's neighbours. The government engages in a Delta Plan to address this issue of transboundary river management.

2.4 Thematic Session 2: Addressing Human Mobility in the Context of Slow-Onset Events and the Adverse Effects of Climate Change

This session was moderated by **Mr. Saleemul Haque, Director, International Center for Climate Change and development (ICCCAD).**

Dr. Max Martin, Research Fellow, School of Global Studies, University of Sussex, proposed to go beyond the use of binaries such as sudden vs. slow onset disasters, forced vs. voluntary migration, trapped people vs. those wanting to stay, highlands vs. lowlands, permanent vs. temporary stay. Sudden onset events such as cyclonic storm surge can lead to slow-onset disasters such as salinity and subsequent movement, to villages, towns and cities or even across borders. Some people move seasonally, others medium- or long-term. The spectrum of mobility can go from voluntary to forced. A certain amount of assets is necessary to be able to move leaving certain people behind, as trapped populations. Some people may be strongly attached to their place of origin and not willing to go, even in the face of disasters. One cannot do anything about the weather other than being well informed and taking measures, such as through Forecast Based Financing, done by the IFRC in Bangladesh. The climate in the Himalaya is changing, there will be more floods and more water in the rivers. Planned resettlements and evacuations may be possible solutions but also “bi-locationism”, providing a safe place to go when there is rough weather.



Panelists making remarks on the displacement impact of slow onset events

An interdisciplinary approach is needed to overcome silos, time to really talk and listen to people. There is much to learn from local knowledge.

Dr. Sonja Aleb-Karlson, Lecturer (Global Health), Brighton and Sussex Medical School; and Senior Researcher, Migration, Climate Change and Health, UNU Institute for Environment and Human Security, University of Sussex, shared stories of people internally displaced by disasters in Bangladesh, including a story of repeated displacement due to riverbank erosion. She stressed that it is important to consider how environmental stressors really affect people. The social roles of men and women are important to consider in displacement situations – who leaves the household? Who stays behind? Who may move away for work? Mental health is not often talked about in contexts of climate change and disasters. Research after Hurricane Katrina in the US has shown people suffered from trauma up to a year post-disaster because of losing a sense of feeling safe in their homes. There is a lot of work to do in the UNFCCC on loss and damage.

Ms. Amina Maharjan, ICIMOD Nepal, also investigated how people respond to the negative effects of climate change and reported on a research project in four countries. More than 2000 households in 12 study sites were surveyed, out of which 29% had a household member engaging in labor migration, mostly married young men. Migration was predominantly internal and higher in mountain areas. Remittances were very low. People reported their reasons for leaving were employment and education, not environmental factors. More than 85% of the households had said they perceived erratic rainfalls and rise in temperature but they did not make the link to their migration decision.

Rainfall, temperature and number of dry days were climatic parameters of influence to migration decisions. People noted property loss due to climate induced extreme events. An important factor is the lag period – extreme events happen but migration happens years later once people have the assets to move. It was very important to break up that binary between movement due to either sudden-onset or slow-onset events and processes.

Slow-onset and sudden-onset events are interrelated and household migration decisions are complex processes, self-reporting might not capture the full reality.

Ms. Sabira Coelho, Regional Migration, Environment and Climate Change Officer, IOM Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, shared key messages for addressing human mobility in the context of slow-onset events and the adverse effects of climate change based on findings from Asia Pacific. 1) Policies covering development, climate change and disaster management should equally consider slow-onset processes. Slow-onset events are more silent disasters and receive less media attention. 2) Policy and operational responses should acknowledge the inter-connectedness of slow and sudden onset processes. 3) As slow-onset processes interact with other drivers to contribute to human mobility, responses should be cross-sectoral and require related institutional arrangements. 4) Qualitative data collection, linked to perceptions of climate change and slow onset events is equally important to define policy and operational responses. 5) Planning should be long-term and take into account generational differences in perceptions of climate change and human mobility. 6) As time is a key factor in the context of slow-onset events and related mobility outcomes, programmes and policies should have short, medium and long-term milestones. 7) To address slow-onset related human mobility, we should consider a suit of options that ensure that migration is a choice, not a necessity. This includes helping people to stay (minimizing forced migration), helping people to move (facilitating migration as adaptation) and helping people who are forced to move. IOM has been working on research and data collection, policy development and shaping operational responses.

Dr. Atiq Rahman, Executive Director, Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies, explained that most disasters are exacerbated by climate change and social factors. The enhancement of the variability is one factor but the enhancement of the extremes is perceived as the disasters. Heritage, culture and identity are important factors why some people do not want to move even if they are threatened by and at risk of disaster displacement. Disaster management has many phases: how are they perceived by communities, by those devising policies, implementing policies. Forecasts are necessary, policy formulation, guidelines, awareness, preparedness of the communities are key in the pre-disaster phase. During disaster and recovery, damage assessment needs to be conducted involving the community in recovery. Rehabilitation and sustainable development are to follow. Bangladesh has had an excellent approach bringing people to shelters, now the new proposed approach would be to bring shelters to people using multi-purpose shelter places with community participation.

From the floor, a **journalist** asked whether political decisions or actions induced migration from river areas. **ICIMOD** replied that many countries were not eager to address migration as a solution but rather something they would like to stop. A representative of the **Ministry of Finance** raised the issue of displacement of women in the context of tsunamis, compelling them to cross borders and exposing them to trafficking. **Dr. Atiq Rahman** replied with reference to the social fabric. If that breaks down, people become subject to exploitation. There must be planning to protect those people. A representative of the **Ministry of the Environment** enquired regarding cyclone-prone areas and people's ability to cope with disasters, displacement being a temporary solution. **Prof. Martin** replied there are several policy options such as seasonal migration. It is debatable whether permanent resettlement or relocation would be wanted by the population.



Participants sharing their views from the floor

2.5 Session: Addressing Human Mobility in the Region, Drawing on Global and Regional Policy Frameworks

This session was moderated by **Ms. Mia Seppo, UN Resident Coordinator, Bangladesh.**

H.E. Shameem Ahsan, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh, Geneva noted that addressing disaster displacement requires to look at both bottom-up approaches (how the communities have been facing challenges associated with disasters and climate change) and top-down approaches (including frameworks at the global, regional and sub-regional levels that can inform action on the ground). Disasters often strike when we are least prepared. Yet, in many countries like Bangladesh, people have developed resilience over time and governments and communities have been able to strengthen disaster preparedness. Countries in South Asia share many characteristics: large populations and territories, similar climate vulnerabilities, transboundary hazards such as cyclones and landslides, increasing the risk of cross-border displacement; at the same time the variety of ecosystems and localized effects of climate change require different approaches and provide opportunities to learn from each other. Regional dialogue and joint action, as well as political will, are thus key.

There are two ways of looking at disaster displacement: from the point of view of DRR and response to localized sudden onset disasters; and from the point of view of climate change mitigation and adaptation in the case of slow onset processes. However, distinctions in terms of action are often not clear-cut: responses to sudden and slow onset events often overlap, and response to sudden onset disasters must go hand in hand with preparation to slow onset processes.

Progress on these issues has been made possible through the Nansen Initiative and its successor since 2016, the PDD. PDD's efforts included the sharing of best practices and promoting action at the regional level, thus contributing to building ample evidence of evolving lessons that can be shared to guide action.

At the global level, the two Global Compacts adopted in 2018 also constitute significant developments. In particular, the GCM represents a historical event, with the first multilateral agreement on migration ever adopted, recognizing climate change and disasters as drivers and the responsibility of States to address them. The GCM addresses all forms of mobility in this context (voluntary migration, forced displacement and planned relocation, evacuation, returns) and draws on a number of global instruments like UNFCCC (Paris Agreement), the 2030 Agenda and the Sendai Framework.

Regional Consultative Process on Migration (RCPs) are particularly relevant, as well as regional processes under regional economic commissions. In South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific, these processes have been progressing very well, such as the 21st Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference, which focused on climate change and migration. The declaration under the Colombo process in 2011 also addresses environmental degradation, climate change and migration and calls for action to address this nexus.

Another example in Asia Pacific is the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific, which is an integrated, forward-looking instrument with important dimensions related to sustainability, human mobility, local development, climate change mitigation and adaptation and DRR.

A lot can be done in terms of policy coherence across all these global policy commitments, and political will is key in order to achieve it. The Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda can be used as an effective toolbox to support the implementation of provisions of key global frameworks such as GCM and GCR, the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda.

Mr. Ovais Sarmad, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNFCCC Secretariat, reminded that the first mention of human mobility in the UNFCCC dates back to the Cancun Adaptation Framework adopted in 2010 (COP16), which called for “measures to enhance understanding, coordination and cooperation with regard to climate change induced displacement, migration, and planned relocation, where appropriate, at the national, regional and international levels”. Following a decision adopted at the COP21 in Paris, the TFD was established to develop recommendations for integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change. At COP24 in Katowice, the COP adopted the recommendations of the TFD of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts (WIM).

The implementation of these agreements and recommendations will require three elements. First of all, key actors, such as PDD, need to help countries bolster resilience in the face of climate risks: understand risks, different categories of emerging risks and specific climate related hazards; understanding how risks can translate in specific impacts on different sectors and operations on the ground. Secondly, it will be essential to take preemptive adaptation action, including measures to make facilities, networks and supply chains more resilient and able to anticipate impacts: for example implementing physical and technical defensive measures, safer designs, and solutions to finance resilient infrastructure.



Speakers highlighting on global policy processes

The UNFCCC Secretariat helps governments to formulate and implement national adaptation plans to enable governments to plan adaptation measures in different sectors, including in the energy sector. Finally, contingency measures can help recover from damages that can occur despite preparatory measures, for example when impacts are unforeseen, their magnitude surpasses estimates, when they are transboundary or when possible preemptive measures could not be taken. Contingency plans can help countries or regions and societies to bounce back and recover: these could include risk sharing, insurances, pooled funds, including for loss and damage. These measures can set a path for a more robust framework for resilience.

Ms. Michele Klein Solomon, Director, IOM, presented the recently adopted GCM and the multiple entry points that it provides for engaging action to address human mobility associated with climate change and disasters, reminding the crucial role of advocacy efforts led by PDD, IOM and other actors in ensuring the inclusion of these considerations in the GCM.

Several objectives (2, 5, 8 and 21) of the GCM are directly relevant to this topic, calling for measures ranging from minimizing drivers through adaptation, preparedness and early warning mechanisms; to enhancing availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration; to saving lives and ensuring safe and dignified return, readmission and sustainable reintegration of migrants. The GCM is the first international instrument calling for safe and regular pathways in the context of slow onset events, building on existing national and regional practices.

The GCM also outlines steps for implementation, follow up and review, encouraging ambitious national responses and voluntary national implementation plans drawing on contributions of all stakeholders across the society and levels of government. The framework places a particular emphasis on bilateral and regional cooperation, identification of existing good practices and mechanisms and platforms, such as PDD.

A capacity building mechanism will be set up on April 1st, 2019, to assist with the implementation of the GCM. The mechanism will include three components, which will all be relevant to addressing disaster displacement and climate migration: a knowledge platform to act as a repository of evidence and good practices; a connection hub to provide advice, help identify gaps and needs and match them with solutions at national and regional levels; and a multi-partner trust fund to facilitate country-level implementation and regional initiatives. The GCM also welcomes the decision of the Secretary-General to set up a UN Network on Migration, to be coordinated by IOM to ensure a system-wide UN support to the implementation of the GCM, including of the capacity building mechanism. The modalities for follow up and review (every four years) will also play an instrumental role in gathering existing evidence and practice.

The following next steps and opportunities are identified for further action on disaster displacement and climate migration: 1) development of national implementation plans (translating global commitments and linking national development, DRR and adaptation plans); 2) support to regional dialogue and cooperation (for example RCPs); 3) contributions to the knowledge platform (building on existing knowledge); 4) development of innovative national and regional projects eligible for the multi-partner trust fund (to be endorsed by governments and UN Resident Coordinators; partnerships with non-governmental stakeholders are very much encouraged).

Mr. Steven Corliss, Country Representative, UNHCR Bangladesh, introduced the GCR, highlighting its potential to change the way actors respond to refugee situations, and to create a new mechanism for burden sharing. Like the GCM, the GCR also constitutes a historical development, as the first new global agreement on refugees since the 1951 Refugee Convention and 1967 Protocol. While the 1951 Refugee Convention encouraged cooperation and burden sharing, it did not outline modalities for it – the GCR provides concrete and practical approaches to this.

The GCR recognizes the interaction of environmental degradation and disasters with drivers of refugee movements. It also calls on stakeholders with relevant mandates and experience to provide guidance on measures to address other protection and humanitarian challenges including to address displacement following natural disasters, taking into account national laws, regional instruments and measures for temporary stay. The key platform for monitoring progress on the implementation of the GCR and mobilizing common efforts will be through a ministerial level conference convened every four years. The first conference will be in Geneva on 17-18 December 2019, and will provide a historic opportunity for PDD's Steering Group and other stakeholders to engage in implementation of the GCR, and make commitments and pledges for technical, material and financial assistance, including in relation to disaster displacement. This will also provide entry points for civil society engagement. The forum will provide an opportunity for stakeholders to showcase effective practices related to DRR, early warning and measures to protect people displaced by disasters. These best practices will be shared on a digital platform established by UNHCR.

As a member of the TFD who contributed to the recommendations it developed, UNHCR will support further efforts to develop normative and policy guidance, in particular assessing the relevance of international protection measures in the context of disasters and climate change. UNHCR is committed to take forward the implementation of the GCR through its engagements in various disaster and climate-related global policy processes, such as the UNFCCC and the forthcoming Global Platform on DRR.

Mr. Gopal Krishna Siwakoti, President of the International Institute For Human Rights, Environment And Development (INHURED), member of PDD Advisory Committee, presented some of the latest developments on the DRR agenda of relevance to disaster displacement at the regional and global levels: the Ulaanbaatar Declaration adopted at the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) in July 2018; and the Words into Action guidelines on Disaster Displacement.

The Ulaanbaatar Declaration constitutes an important milestone in regional efforts to reinforce accountability of all stakeholders and monitoring of indicators and targets of the Sendai Framework. The AMCDRR witnessed active involvement of regional actors, including state-led initiatives and the civil society, and discussed disaster displacement within the DRR framework. The two-year Action Plan for 2018-2020 agreed upon in Ulaanbaatar, and aligned with the 2030 Agenda, will offer opportunities to collaborate for effective action on DRR and displacement.

The Declaration includes several key components of relevance to disaster displacement. The first one is the emphasis on policy coherence when translating global policy commitments into national policy; in particular, coherent action needs to be taken in relation to target E of the Sendai Framework on DRR, through a whole-of-society approach. Other key elements include the focus on early warning mechanisms, on building back better and post disaster recovery, on better coordination to ensure effective engagement of relevant expertise; on inclusive action, with particular attention given to issues specific to gender, youth, disabilities, to ensure that no one is left behind. The Declaration also places an emphasis on North-South and South-South cooperation, as well as engagement of the private sector for investments and timebound forecast based financing for DRR. Finally, it highlights the importance to reinforce knowledge sharing and involve new actors and expertise, in particular from academia.



Guest at the launching of a photobook on displacement

A good example of efforts to support governments in advancing on their commitments related to displacement under the Sendai Framework are the Words into Action guidelines on Disaster Displacement. This tool provides guidance on possible national, regional and bilateral action in support of the implementation of Target E of the Sendai Framework. It includes guidance on legal, institutional, and policy measures, and outlines concrete steps for implementation at national and local levels. It is intended to support national, regional and global actors, policy makers and lawmakers to ensure that policies will avoid and prevent displacement, including across borders. The roll out of this tool is being considered in several countries in different regions.

In conclusion, countries in South Asia have developed a significant number of regional instruments that can provide models for replication and inform inter-regional dialogue and exchange of practices: examples include the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) framework for disaster management, SAARC visa exemption schemes, the SAARC climate change policy, the 2014 Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) Declaration, and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response, among others. Political will needs to be mobilized to support their implementation and the efforts of actors such as PDD.

Mr. Saleemul Haque, Director, International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), discussed the implications of climate change and displacement in terms of loss and damage from the global and the national perspective.

At the global level, in the context of the UNFCCC, there is an urgency to look beyond adaptation and address loss and damage, in situations when adaptation has failed. Many countries already witness such loss and damage, and one of the greatest achievements of the COP24 was the progress made on the agenda of the WIM. The issue will remain high on the agenda at the COP25 in Chile, particularly on items related to financing and insurance. The recent developments under the GCM, GCR and TFD offer an opportunity to bring together expertise across thematic areas and learn from each other.

Bangladesh, as a country particularly vulnerable to climate change, has significantly advanced work on adaptation, mitigation, loss and damage and migration. At the COP24, the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief presented a new national multi-sector and multi-ministry initiative, which will pilot a national mechanism on loss and damage in Bangladesh over two years, bringing together all key stakeholders from the government, academia, civil society, international organizations. The mechanism will include an insurance system, and devote particular attention to addressing the issue of displacement.

Finally, ensuring availability of choice for people affected by climate change is one of the main priorities for the government of Bangladesh in its efforts to address climate change. It is estimated that over the next two decades, between 10 and 20 million people may have to leave coastal parts of the country, adding pressure on large overcrowded cities. Therefore, the government focuses its efforts on adaptation in areas affected by climate change to reduce the need to migrate, while in parallel enabling alternative options for future generations by developing climate-resilient and migrant-friendly secondary cities in Bangladesh. This programme, implemented by governmental and non-governmental actors, aims to offer viable options for rural to urban migration through improved employment, education and health opportunities in secondary cities, which will contribute to development in these cities and also help to reduce the pressure already exerted on highly attractive large cities such as Dhaka. By developing such opportunities for current and future generations, the programme is intended to empower people to make their own migration decisions in the face of climate change.

From the floor, **IOM** asked how climate change funding could better address funding needs for programmes aiming to address migration and displacement in the context of climate change, as the current funding architecture provides few entry points for that. **ICCCAD** replied that at the global level, the issue of migration is currently discussed under the loss and damage discussions under the UNFCCC, where currently no funding is made available. Discussions on funding will continue at the COP25. At the national level, the issue of migration falls between jurisdictions. Since 2009, Bangladesh has had a forward looking strategy on climate change which has helped to fund many projects. The strategy is currently being revised, and will include the issue of climate migration, with the intention to address this issue more through national, sectoral and urban plans.

From the floor, the **Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre** noted the absence of clear goals and indicators pertaining to internal displacement and to policy coherence in existing global policy frameworks, and asked how collaborative and harmonized institutional efforts could help to address this gap. **INHURED International** replied that while certain frameworks do not have goals, others like the 2030 Agenda or the Sendai Framework have clear targets for monitoring. Many countries monitor and report on their progress. While there is no binding document specifically on internal displacement, the 1998 Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement provide an important protection framework on this issue, that governments can translate into national legislation.

From the floor, a representative of the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh** noted that in addition to the 2014 BIMSTEC declaration mentioned in INHURED's presentation, the Declaration adopted at the 2018 BIMSTEC summit in Kathmandu included strong language on climate change and DRR and marked States' commitment to address disasters and climate change impacts through cooperation (articles 13 and 14). He also noted that the BIMSTEC and SAARC disaster management centres were recently successfully launched in India. **INHURED** reminded that BIMSTEC discussions concern a region that faces many challenges in terms of climate change, disaster risks and population movement, and these discussions cannot take place in isolation from wider regional and global discussions.

H.E. Shameem Ahsan, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh, Geneva, added a final comment on the "climate-resilient and migrant-friendly towns initiative" as indicative of the current situation and efforts in Bangladesh where it is clear that environmental action alone will not be enough, and it is important to involve other sectors in adaptation efforts, such as urban planning and architecture for improved governance and living conditions.

2.6 Session: Implementation of Relevant Policy Frameworks at the Regional and National Level: Challenges, Opportunities and Requirements in Taking Commitments Forward.

This session was moderated by **Prof. Kaelin, the Envoy of the Chair of PDD**. He summarized the discussions that took place earlier in the day and highlighted opportunities for moving forward both at global and regional levels, inviting the panelists, all representatives of PDD's Steering Group, to share their experiences and present national perspectives with regards to future engagement in this area.

Ms. Magaly Paniagua Díaz, Chief, Visa Department, Ministry of Interior, Government of Costa Rica, presented Costa Rica's approach and response in relation to cross-border disaster displacement, in three types of situation: 1) protection of migrants caught in disaster situations in Costa Rica; 2) protection of foreigners unable to return to their country as it experiences a disaster; 3) protection of nationals of another country affected by a disaster seeking protection in Costa Rica. Costa Rica has experienced all three types of situations in recent years, and has responded by providing temporary protection, regularizing residence status, providing shelter and assistance for foreign nationals in need of protection assistance following a disaster. The Central American region has been at the forefront of policy work on these issues, and States have consistently engaged in regional dialogue and exchange of practices on these topics. A Guide to Effective Practices for Admission and Stay was adopted at the regional level by the Regional Conference on Migration. Costa Rica and Panama have also conducted bilateral simulation exercises to prepare for cross-border disaster-displacement. Future efforts will have to focus on the national implementation of the GCM, regional collaboration and coordination, and improved knowledge and evidence on migration, climate change and disasters.

Mr. Enrique Filloy Ramos, Migration Policy Unit, Ministry of Interior, Government of Mexico, shared Mexico's own rich experience in strengthening national policies on migration and human rights protection of people displaced in the context of recurrent disasters and the adverse effects of climate change. The country is taking steps to align all its policies with global agreements such as the UNFCCC, SDGs, WHS, GCM, GCR, Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda and Guidelines to Protect Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster (MICIC). The government has been focusing on measures to promote the inclusion of migrants in the design of policies as well as preparedness, response and recovery to emergencies. A lot of work



Panelists speaking about challenges, opportunities and requirements in Taking Commitments Forward

has been done in collaboration with IOM, the National Centre for Disaster Prevention, provincial disaster centres and the civil society for supporting national level dialogue and capacity building, which is particularly needed at the very local level. Mexico has also actively engaged in global initiatives, such as PDD and MICIC, and regional efforts, including through the participation or organization of regional capacity building workshops in partnership with IOM and PDD. Mexico is also preparing for a bilateral simulation exercise with Guatemala to strengthen the capacity of both countries to respond to cross-border disaster and displacement situations. Some of the key areas of engagement identified by Mexico are strengthening human rights based approaches to addressing disaster displacement at the regional level, particularly in the context of complex mixed migration flows; as well as building evidence to understand root causes and risks that could prevent the implementation of durable solutions to displacement. There is a shared responsibility to addressing disaster displacement and ensuring safe, orderly and regular migration.

Mr. Patrick Auffret, Counsellor PDD, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations, Geneva, as the current Vice-Chair of PDD, highlighted France's commitment to support PDD's Steering Group and engage as incoming chair of PDD. It is time to look for concrete solutions in the face of new challenges, ensuring coordination of efforts for the implementation of various global policy processes. Partnerships will be critical with a wide range of stakeholders: governments, civil society organizations, international organizations, in particular with IOM and UNHCR, who will receive staff support from France to strengthen the partnership with PDD. It will be essential to develop new partnerships, reach out to new stakeholders, in particular development actors, and benefit from their experience. Another priority would be to convince donors to create new funding mechanisms to address disaster displacement. Finally, engagement at the regional level will be key, and the meeting in Dhaka provides an example of an effective practice in line with PDD priorities.

Ms. Irene Biontino, Counsellor Humanitarian Affairs, Migration, Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations, Geneva, as the previous Chair of the PDD, reminded participants that the impacts of climate change are felt in all countries, including in Europe. It is therefore key to link PDD to preventive efforts, for example DRR. Germany is promoting tools such as risk financing and insurances, but it is also important to develop alternatives, such as those spearheaded by Bangladesh. It is important for PDD to be visibly engaged in a variety of places and themes; however given the limited capacities, PDD's efforts will need to be cost-effective and to build on existing structures (networks already in place, actors in the humanitarian and development cooperation field who can support this work). It will be important for PDD to reach out more systematically to other countries for broader political and financial support, and promote cross-regional exchange of practices. The efforts of Steering Group members like the EU in pledging funding for a project in the Pacific or of Bangladesh in promoting advocacy and reaching out to other countries in Asia deserve particular praise.

Several of PDD's Steering Group members made statements from the floor:

The **European Union** mentioned their support to climate change adaptation through the Global Climate Change Alliance +, through investment into specific climate change adaptation programmes until 2022 (330 million Euros invested over 2013-2020), including some programmes dealing specifically with the climate change and migration nexus. The EU is at the forefront of DRR and preemptive actions, with risk management being an integral part of EU external development assistance. DG DEVCO and DG ECHO work closely together in many countries to promote the links between humanitarian-development mechanisms. The EU is very supportive of PDD and follows closely its efforts and outcomes, which will be highly relevant in EU development cooperation, humanitarian assistance, climate assistance and DRR. In addition to DG DEVCO contributions to climate change and migration, the DG DEVCO will soon fund a large programme on disaster displacement in the Pacific region, of which PDD will be a partner alongside NRC/IDMC, IOM and UNHCR. (Note from the moderator: the programme will be implemented to support the development of human mobility frameworks, enhanced public policies and better understanding disaster displacement risk).



Representatives of PDD member states exchanging their experiences

The Philippines expressed their appreciation to Bangladesh, Chair of PDD, for its leadership and hospitality and for organizing the meeting. They found the theme of the meeting very timely; it is important to address displacement issues in a collaborative manner as part of action to address climate change and disasters. The Philippines is a founding member of PDD, and as a country regularly exposed to disasters, they attach a paramount importance to addressing disaster displacement. The country has undertaken preparedness and legislative measures to ensure the protection of persons displaced following disasters. This is coupled by efforts to intensify partnerships with other countries, humanitarian agencies, the



Representatives of PDD member states exchanging their experiences

private sector and other stakeholders, and to promote the implementation of the Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda. The Philippines has been promoting the issue of human mobility and climate change even before PDD, as part of the Nansen Initiative, as a host of a regional consultation in October 2013. The regional consultation helped to discuss displacement and human mobility issues in the region, identify challenges and concrete practices for preparedness and response to these challenges. The Philippines continues to engage in PDD. In 2018, the Philippines organized a Regional Workshop with PDD on disaster displacement, DRR and preparedness, with support from Germany and Switzerland. The workshop helped to understand the importance of including disaster displacement issues in national DRR plans. The Philippines reinforces its commitment to support the work of PDD. This meeting constitutes a remarkable contribution to promoting meaningful responses to disaster displacement and strengthening capacities of communities to build resilience.

Switzerland congratulated the Government of Bangladesh and IOM for organizing the conference, and reminded of the challenges associated with disaster displacement. Addressing disaster displacement is key to achieving the SDGs. Switzerland has been at the forefront of efforts to prevent and address disaster displacement and ensure the protection of people affected. As co-chair of the Nansen Initiative with Norway, Switzerland led on the development of the Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda and has been active in its follow-up through PDD. PDD has achieved many successes since 2016 at global, regional and national levels. Through these efforts, a broad range of documents negotiated at global level have recognized the need to address disaster displacement, including the Sendai Framework, the New York Declaration for Migrants and Refugees, and the outcomes of the TFD. In addition, there are regional guidelines such as the Guide to Effective Practices for Admission and Stay in Central America. Switzerland has supported these efforts in many ways, for example by providing funding for secondments in Costa Rica and within IGAD, or through financing specific projects such as the UNHCR study on the climate change-conflict nexus or the workshop in the Philippines. As PDD is developing a new strategic framework for 2019-2022, Switzerland will realign its engagement with the new priorities, and will make sure that PDD has the necessary resources to implement the Workplan. Switzerland commits to continue supporting activities that aim to implement the Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda, particularly at regional level, and to ensure that the topic remains high on the regional and global agendas. South Asia and South East Asia are particularly affected by disaster displacement, this conference provided an ideal opportunity for these countries to come together and exchange best practices, as well as to discuss how disaster displacement can be included in relevant national and regional strategies and planning. This is the region where most of the most promising and innovative approaches have been developed. (The moderator reminded of the role of Switzerland and Norway in launching the Nansen Initiative, addressing the topic outside of the UN with a commitment to bring it back into the UN system).

Morocco, also a founding member of PDD, highlighted the country's efforts at three levels: national, regional and global. Migration is a priority for Morocco. At the national level, the government has developed a new rights-based policy on immigration and asylum in line with Morocco's international commitments. Since 2014, Morocco regularized the administrative situation of several thousand foreigners staying irregularly in Morocco, and developed legal measures to help migrants to integrate into their host countries, with particular focus on respect and promotion of human rights (in particular rights to education, vocational training and health).

At the regional level, this approach is welcomed by African leaders. In 2018, a report on the African Agenda presented by Morocco and African leaders was unanimously adopted by the African Union, with migration considered as a factor of development. An African Observatory on Migration proposed by Morocco was also recently adopted at the 31st African Union Summit (July 2018). The African Observatory will be a fundamental pillar of Morocco's commitment to implement the African Agenda and the GCM. As part of Morocco's presidency of the COP22 in 2016, several important initiatives were launched, such as the Blue Fund of the Congo Basin Climate Commission and the 3S initiative (Sustainability, Stability and Security in Africa) to address the root causes of migration and instability due to desertification and land degradation.

At the global level, Morocco has co-chaired (with Germany) the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) in 2017 and 2018, and played an active role in the negotiations towards the GCM and in promoting the topic on the climate change agenda. Several workshops were organized jointly with IOM in 2016 and 2017, in support of climate change discussions and GCM negotiations, and the GFMD. An outcome GFMD report helped to identify concrete actions for States and other institutions to ensure effective response and protection of people displaced by disasters.

Bangladesh thanked the Steering Group members for their commitment to PDD. Bangladesh is actively engaged with migration, climate change and displacement issues at all levels internationally. Some countries are taking a disproportionate burden of climate change. Bangladesh works to overcome this at the national level, and has spent close to one billion USD annually on climate change projects as part of development programmes, including through a dedicated Climate Change Trust Fund which was established in 2009 with own domestic resource aligned with the country's United Nations Development Assistance Framework. With the support of the Regional Development Bank, the government invests in mitigation efforts such as energy efficiency and solar energy, and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Disaster displacement and climate change require global solutions. We are fast approaching the point of no return; while there are now sufficient scientific understanding, technological capacities and financial means to cope with climate change and related displacement, political will is still lacking. It is hoped that PDD will become a force to remind of the joint responsibility to protect affected people. For the next phase of PDD, Bangladesh wishes PDD to continue with a focus on protection needs and managing displacement risks in accordance with the Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda, to maintain focus on policy and normative gaps, on promoting evidence and operational responses to cross-border displacement, and continue to mainstream the topic in global policy agendas, such as the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, the GCM and GCR, the Sendai Framework, the UNFCCC (in particular the Paris Agreement and WIM). It is also important that PDD continues its outreach to key stakeholders.

From the floor, **ICIMOD** mentioned some of the challenges affecting coastal and mountain regions, in particular the impact of melting glaciers on livelihoods.

In closing, the **moderator** summarized some of the key words from the discussion: the importance of partnerships across silos, a strong effective follow up to global and regional frameworks, the need to invest into implementation, and to build on and promote effective practices to ensure their harmonization.

2.7 Closing Ceremony

H.E. Mr. Shahidul Haque, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh summarized the discussions and presented the draft Chair's Summary of the meeting, recognizing also the important contribution of the discussion with the civil society organized by COAST Bangladesh the day before. As PDD is entering its next phase, the strategic priorities for 2019-2022 will build on achievements made so far by PDD and the Nansen Initiative, in collaboration with its partners. DRR, migration and refugee policy and climate change action will be the main focus, in particular at the regional level where PDD will be supporting the implementation of global commitments. Bangladesh will pass on the chairmanship to France in July 2019, but will continue to remain committed to PDD and take forward the work at the regional level.

H.E. Dr. Md. Enamur Rahman, MP, Hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Government of Bangladesh, reminded that Bangladesh is a disaster and climate-change prone country, but also is considered as a model country worldwide in terms of DRR, preparedness and disaster response and climate change adaptation, and linking it to development efforts. Bangladesh is strongly committed to reduce the loss and damage associated with climate change and disasters through the implementation of global frameworks. National preparedness and response programmes have already reduced mortality due to disasters. This meeting provided an opportunity to exchange on best practices and ideas on issues around disaster displacement. Bangladesh is also chairing the Regional Consultative Group on Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination for Asia and the Pacific.



Guests at the Closing ceremony of the conference

H.E. Mr. Md. Shahriar Alam, MP, Hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh reminded that global disasters require global solutions through consultative collective efforts, and highlighted the urgency of addressing the growing crisis of displacement in the context of disasters and climate change, whether internal or across borders. The practices and guidance presented at the meeting will contribute to addressing disaster displacement and providing solutions to both sudden and slow onset disasters. Yet, more resources are needed for achieving the SDGs and addressing disaster displacement and specific vulnerabilities. Bangladesh is committed to continue its leadership role until France becomes Chair of PDD in July 2019.

Field Trip to Shariatpur

On Monday, 25th February 2019, participants had the opportunity to visit Naria Upazila in Shariatpur District, central Bangladesh, where communities living by the river Padma experience riverbank erosion every year. The field trip included a visit of some of the affected areas, as well as a briefing organized by officials from the Upazila Administration, Naria, Shariatpur, who presented the challenges that communities face in this area, as well as ongoing efforts to respond to these challenges.



District administration officials brief the delegation about disaster displacement

As the velocity of the Padma increases, every year several hundreds of meters of land are lost to the river, resulting in the destruction of housing and of other critical infrastructure such as hospitals, schools and bridges, and affecting local economic activity. In 2018 alone, close to 5000 families were displaced in Naria as a result of erosion, and have had to move elsewhere with the support of the government or independently.

The government provides support to affected populations through grants and other assistance; in addition, local NGOs and diaspora communities abroad also play a key role in assisting affected people, with, for example, family members sending remittances to support reconstruction.



Participants of the field visit

Increased attention to this issue and greater efforts will be required in the long run, as erosion is likely to continue to undermine livelihoods and food security, and limited availability of land for relocation will increasingly constitute a challenge. Local authorities are implementing several measures already to curb riverbank erosion, including through a project supported by the World Bank to build embankments and reinforce the riverbanks. Insurance schemes, particularly for farmers, are also being discussed at the level of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, notably in connection to global climate change negotiations and the decisions on loss and damage. The government is also developing longer term plans to address future risks related to the effects of climate change, in particular melting glaciers. The Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100, developed in collaboration with the Netherlands and adopted in 2018, will provide comprehensive policy guidelines for all sectors to help adapt to climate change.

Annex 1: Agenda

Day of Arrival Saturday, 23 February 2019	
18:00 -19:30	Addressing Disaster Displacement in Bangladesh: Civil Society Perspective Dialogue with Guests from Platform on Disaster Displacement
19:30-20:30	Dinner hosted by COAST Bangladesh

Day 1 Sunday, 24 February 2019	
08:30-09:00	Registration
09:00-10:00	Opening Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Michael Schultheiss, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany and Previous Chair of PDD • H.E. Ms. Marie Annick Bourdin, Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of France and Vice-Chair of PDD • Ms. Michele Klein Solomon, Director (Global Compact for Migration), Office of the Director General, International Organization for Migration (IOM) • Mr. Ovais Sarmad, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNFCCC Secretariat • Mr. Md. Shah Kamal, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Government of Bangladesh • Mr. Md. Nojibur Rahman, Principal Secretary, Prime Minister's Office, Government of Bangladesh • H.E. Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen, Hon'ble Foreign Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
10:00-10:15	Coffee Break
10:15-11:15	Report on the pledges, status of implementation of various commitments made by the member states and way forward for sustainable living. [Moderation: H.E. Mr. Shahidul Haque, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results and Outcomes of PDD 2016-2019 by Mr. Atle Solberg, Head of the PDD Coordination Unit, Geneva • Outlook for PDD 2019-2022 by Prof. Walter Kaelin, Envoy of the Chair, PDD, Geneva
11:15-12:15	Thematic Session 1: Displacement Impacts of Sudden-Onset Events in Asia Pacific: Preventive, Adaptive and Responsive Action [Moderation: H.E. Mr. Shameem Ahsan, Ambassador & Permanent Representative of Bangladesh, Geneva] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Loata Tute Vakacegu, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Rural & Maritime Development, National Disaster Management & Meteorological Services, Government of Fiji • Mr. Brian Todd Wittbold, Regional Programme Advisor, Norwegian Refugee Council • Ms. Maria Moita, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, IOM Bangkok • Mr. Ezekiel Simperingham, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Asia Pacific Regional Office, Malaysia • Mr. Md. Shah Kamal, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Government of Bangladesh

12:15-13:30	<p>Thematic Session 2: Addressing Human Mobility in the Context of Slow-Onset Events and the Adverse Effects of Climate Change</p> <p>[Moderation: Mr. Saleemul Haque, Director, International Center for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD)]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Max Martin, Research Fellow, School of Global Studies, University of Sussex • Dr. Sonja Ayeb-Karlsson, Lecturer (Global Health), Brighton and Sussex Medical School; and Senior Researcher, Migration, Climate Change and Health, UNU Institute for Environment and Human Security, University of Sussex • Ms. Amina Maharjan, ICIMOD Nepal • Ms. Sabira Coelho, Regional Migration, Environment and Climate Change Officer, IOM Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok • Dr. Atiq Rahman, Executive Director, Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS)
13:30-14:30	Lunch
14:30-16:00	<p>Addressing Human Mobility in the Region, Drawing on Global and Regional Policy Frameworks</p> <p>[Moderation: Ms. Mia Seppo, UN Resident Coordinator, Bangladesh]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Shameem Ahsan, Ambassador & Permanent Representative of Bangladesh, Geneva • Mr. Ovais Sarmad, UNFCCC, Secretariat • Ms. Michele Klein Solomon, Director, IOM • Mr. Steven Corliss, Country Representative, UNHCR Bangladesh • Mr. Gopal Krishna Siwakoti, President, INHURED International • Mr. Saleemul Haque, Director, International Center for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD)
16:00-17:30	<p>Implementation of Relevant Policy Frameworks at the Regional and National Level: Challenges, Opportunities and Requirements in Taking Commitments Forward</p> <p>[Moderation: Prof. Walter Kaelin, Envoy of the Chair, PDD]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Magaly Paniagua Díaz, Chief, Visa Department, Ministry of Interior, Government of Costa Rica • Mr. Enrique Filloy Ramos, Migration Policy Unit, Ministry of Interior, Government of Mexico • Mr. Patrick Auffret, Counsellor PDD, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations, Geneva • Ms. Irene Biontino, Counsellor – Humanitarian Affairs – Migration, Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations, Geneva • Statements from the Floor by PDD Steering Group Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Union • Philippines • Switzerland • Morocco • Bangladesh
17:30-17:45	Coffee Break
17:45-19:00	<p>Closing Ceremony</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of Chair's Summary and Vote of Thanks by H.E. Mr. Shahidul Haque, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh • Statement by H.E. Dr. Md. Enamur Rahman, MP, Hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Government of Bangladesh • Concluding remarks by H.E. Mr. Md. Shahriar Alam, MP, Hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
19:00-21:00	Dinner hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh

Day 2
Monday, 25 February 2019

10:00-17:00	Field Trip to Shariatpur Activities at the site include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit of an area affected by riverbank erosion • Briefing by the local government authorities
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Annex 2: List of Participant

SN	Name	Designation	Organization
1	A. Atiq Rahman	Executive Director	Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS)
2	A.T.M Mostafa Kamal	Joint Secretary	Power Division, Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources, Government of Bangladesh
3	Abarul Islam	Head- ICT	COAST Trust
4	Abu Syed Mohammad Hashim	Director General	Department of Disaster Management, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Government of Bangladesh
5	Achala Navaratne	Country Representative	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
6	AFM Afzal Hossain	Deputy Executive Director (P&D)	Institute of Water Modelling
7	AFM Gousal Azam Sarker	Director General (IO)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
8	AHM Bazlur Rahman	Chief Executive Officer	Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC)
9	Aishath Shaan Shakir	Ambassador	Embassy of the Republic of Maldives in Bangladesh
10	Akib Bin Anwar	Project Manager	Ovibashi Karmi Unnayan Program (OKUP)
11	AKM Jashimuddin	Director	Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh (ADAB)
12	Amina Maharjan	Livelihoods (Migration) Specialist	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
13	Aminul Hoque	Deputy Director	COAST Trust
14	Anindya Dutta	Programme Officer- Migration and Development	Embassy of Switzerland in Bangladesh
15	Anna Plowman	Visiting researcher	International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD)
16	Ashalata Baidya	Executive Director	Surjamukhi Sangstha (SMS)
17	Ashfaqur Rahman	Senior Programme Associate- Emergencies & Displacement Unit	International Organization for Migration, Bangladesh
18	Ashraful Haque	Program Coordinator	International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD)
19	Asif M. Chowdhury		Barisal University
20	Atle Solberg	Head of the Coordination Unit	Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD)
21	Badhon Areng	General Secretary	Cultural and Development Society (CDS)/BIPNet-CCBD
22	Basu Maitra	PC	Bangladeshi Ovhibashi Mohila Sramik Association (BOMSA)
23	Benoit Prefontaine	High Commissioner	High Commission of Canada in Bangladesh
24	Boumait Sanir	Counselor	Embassy of His Majesty the King of Morocco to Bangladesh

SN	Name	Designation	Organization
25	Bradley Coates	Counsellor (Political)	High Commission of Canada in Bangladesh
26	Brian Todd Wittbold	Regional Programme Advisor	Norwegian Refugee Council
27	Christoph Fuchs	CDA	Embassy of Switzerland in Bangladesh
28	Colin Fernandes	Urban Resilience Regional Coordinator, Global Disaster Preparedness Center	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
29	Daniela D'Urso	Head of Office	European Commission
30	Daria Mokhnacheva	Regional Migration, Environment and Climate Change Officer	International Organization for Migration, Geneva
31	Datta Sree Rajib Kuman	Assistant Secretary	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
32	Debashish Bhowmick	Head of Technology	Dnet
33	Dilruba Haider	Programme Specialist	UN Women
34	Din Muhammad Shibly	Managing Director; and Founding Principal	Branch & Leaves; Chhaya Institute of Communication & Photography
35	Dipu Mahmud	Director Programme	Bangladesh Nari Sangbadik Kendra (BNSK)
36	Disha Sonata Faruque	Coordinator- Emergencies & Displacement Unit	International Organization for Migration, Bangladesh
37	Enrique Filloy Ramos		Migration Policy Unit, Ministry of Interior, Government of Mexico
38	Ezekiel Simperingham	Migration and Displacement Coordinator	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
39	Faisal Ahmed	Director General (EAP)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
40	Farha Hadia	CME	COAST Trust
41	Farhana Haque	Deputy Secretary	Rural Development & Co-operative Division, Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Co-operatives, Government of Bangladesh
42	Ferdousi Shahriar	Director General	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
43	Golam Rasul	Chief Economist	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
44	Gopal Siwakoti	President	International Institute for Human Rights, Environment and Development (INHURED International)
45	H M Hasan Al Mamun	Executive Director	Dustha Kallyan Sangstha (DUKS)
46	Halim Majid	Ambassador	Embassy of His Majesty the King of Morocco to Bangladesh
47	Haragobinda Baidya	Executive Director	Ministry Self Empowerment Foundation (MSEF)
48	Henry Glorieux	Humanitarian Affairs Advisor	Office of the UN Resident Coordinator
49	Irene Biontino	Counsellor	Permanent Mission of Germany to the Office of the UN and to the other International Organizations, Geneva
50	Ishtiaque Mahmud	Squadron Leader	Bangladesh Air Force
51	Jahangir H. Masum	Executive Director	Coastal Development Partnership (CDP)
52	Julio Cesar	Consul	Embassy of Brazil in Dhaka, Bangladesh
53	Kamrul Ahsan	Secretary-Bilateral (Europe, Africa & Americas) & Consular	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
54	Kawser Rahman	City-Editor	The Daily Janakantha
55	Kazi Lamiyah Daraksha Karim	Junior Project Engineer	Dnet
56	Kazi S. Rahman	Humanitarian Affairs Specialist	Office of the UN Resident Coordinator
57	Kelly Flynn	Head of Programmes	Joint Peace Fund
58	Kh. Faruq Ahamed	Executive Director	Trinamool Unnayan Sangstha

SN	Name	Designation	Organization
59	Khaleda Sarkar	Coordinator (Access to Justice)	Bangladesh Nari Sangbadik Kendra (BNSK)
60	Khorsheda Yasmeen	Joint Secretary	Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of Bangladesh
61	Khurshid Alam	Assistant Resident Representative	UNDP
62	Laura Bahlman	Visiting researcher	International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD)
63	Loata Vakacegu	Deputy Secretary	Ministry of Rural & Maritime Development and National Disaster Management, Government of Fiji
64	Lorensia Brahmana	Staff Political Affairs	Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Bangladesh
65	LV I. De Guzman	CDA	Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines in Dhaka
66	M. Amanul Hoq	Director General	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
67	M. Rezaul Karim Chowdhury	Executive Director	COAST Trust
68	Magaly Paniagua Diaz	Chief, Visa Department	Ministry of Interior, Government of Costa Rica
69	Mahbub Uz Zaman	Secretary-Bilateral (Asia & Pacific)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
70	Mainul Alam	Senior Journalist	Daily Ittefaq
71	Major General A K M Abdur Rahman, ndc, psc	Director General	Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS)
72	Maria Moita	Regional Technical Specialist, EPC	Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Bangkok
73	Marie-Annick Bourdin	Ambassador	Embassy of France in Bangladesh
74	Masud Parvege	Assistant Secretary	Foreign Service Academy
75	Masuda Farouk Ratna	Executive Director	Gram Bikash Shohayak Shangstha (GBSS)
76	Masudur Rahman	Director General	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
77	Max Martin	Research Fellow, Scholld of Global Studies	University of Sussex
78	Md Abdul Aziz Mollah	Additional Director General	Directorate General of Food, Government of Bangladesh
79	Md. Abdul Awal Khan	Associate Professor	Department of Law, Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB)
80	Md. Abdul Hasan	DTL-CFTM	COAST Trust
81	Md. Abdul Wadud	Deputy Secretary	Ministry of Housing & Public Works, Government of Bangladesh
82	Md. Abul Basar	IBP Manager	British Council
83	Md. Alamgeer Hossain	Assistant Secretary	Foreign Service Academy
84	Md. Altaf Hossain	Photography officer	Press Information Department, Ministry of Information, Government of Bangladesh
85	Md. Arif Dewan	Coordinator- PAC	COAST Trust
86	Md. Asaduz Zaman Sheikh	Executive Director	UDAYAN-Bangladesh
87	Md. Ashfaqur Rahman	Assistant Secretary	Foreign Service Academy
88	Md. Biplob Tarafder	Assistant Secretary	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
89	Md. Delwar Hossain	Director General (SEA)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
90	Md. Faruq Hossain	Regional Program Coordinator- Chittagong Region	COAST Trust
91	Md. Iftekhar Rahman	Assistant Secretary	Foreign Service Academy
92	Md. Jannatul Habib	Assistant Secretary	Foreign Service Academy
93	Md. Masudur Rahman Bhuiyan	Security Services	Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
94	Md. Mohsin	Additional Secretary	Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Government of Bangladesh

SN	Name	Designation	Organization
95	Md. Moniruzzaman	Deputy Secretary	Ministry of Land, Government of Bangladesh
96	Md. Mosharraf Hossain	Director	Prime Minister's Office, Government of Bangladesh
97	Md. Moynul Haque Bhuiyan	Deputy Secretary	ICT Division, Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology, Government of Bangladesh
98	Md. Nurul Islam	CXB Correspondent	Reuters and New Age
99	Md. Rafiqul Islam	Director	Federation of NGOs in Bangladesh (FNB)
100	Md. Sadique Hasan Polash	Senior Reporter	The Daily Sokaler Somoy
101	Md. Salehin Sarfaraz	Advocacy Coordinator	COAST Trust
102	Md. Shah Kamal	Senior Secretary	Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Government of Bangladesh
103	Md. Shahidul Haque	Foreign Secretary	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
104	Md. Shahinur Rahman		
105	Md. Shamsul Haque	Director General	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
106	Md. Shawkat Ali	Deputy Secretary	Office of the President of Bangladesh, Government of Bangladesh
107	Md. Tanzim Anwar	Senior Reporter	Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS)
108	Md. Tarikul Islam	Director General (Africa)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
109	Md. Tohidul Islam	PRO	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
110	Md. Warishul Islam	Assistant Secretary	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
111	Md. Zahangir Alam	Director General (LA)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
112	Mia Seppo	UN Resident Coordinator	Office of the Resident Coordinator, Bangladesh
113	Michael Schultheiss	Deputy Head of Mission	Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Bangladesh
114	Michele Klein Solomon	Director (Global Compact for Migration), Office of the Director General	International Organization for Migration (IOM), Geneva
115	Mirza Mosiuzzaman	Diplomatic Correspondent	Daily Jai Jai Din
116	Mobassera Kadery	Director (Mission), External Publicity Wing	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
117	Mohammad Zakir Hossain	Photo Journalist	Bangladesh Post
118	Moqbul Ahmed	Assistant Director, DTL-CFTM	COAST Trust
119	Morshed Ahmed	Senior Advisor	Royal Norwegian Embassy in Dhaka, Bangladesh
120	Mrinal Kanti Tripura	Director	Maleya Foundation/BIPNet-CCBD
121	Munshi Faiz Ahmad	Chairman	Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS)
122	Murni Nyaristi	Third Secretary	Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Bangladesh
123	Mustafa Kamal Akanda	Assistant Director	COAST Trust
124	Nabila Noushin	Assistant Secretary	Foreign Service Academy
125	Nahida Rahman Shumona	Director General (RO)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
126	Nahida Sobhan	Director General (UN)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
127	Nazrul Islam	Senior Manager (CCP)	BRAC
128	Oalid Islam		Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
129	Ovais Sarmad	Deputy Executive Secretary	The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat
130	Pak Kyong Chol	DMC & Counsellor	Embassy of DPR of Korea
131	Patrick Auffret	Counselor, PDD	Permanent Mission of France to the Office of the UN and to the other International Organizations, Geneva
132	Patrick Charignon	Head- Transition and Recovery Division	International Organization for Migration (IOM), Bangladesh

SN	Name	Designation	Organization
133	Penny Morton	Deputy High Commissioner/Counsellor	Australian High Commission
134	Peppi Siddiq	Manager- Emergencies & Displacement Unit	International Organization for Migration, Bangladesh
135	Quamrul Islam Chowdhury	Chairman	Forum of Environmental Journalists bangladesh (FEJB)
136	Rafiqul Alam	Executive Director	Dwip Unnayan Songstha (DUS)
137	Raheed Ejaz	Diplomatic Correspondent	Prothom Alo
138	Raquibul Amin	Programme Coordinator	International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Bangladesh
139	Ruci Daveta	Sr. Administrative Officer	Ministry of Rural & Maritime Development and National Disaster Management, Government of Fiji
140	Rukhsana Hasin	Joint Secretary	Financial Institutions Division, Ministry of Finance, Government of Bangladesh
141	Sabira Coelho	Regional Migration, Environment and Climate Change Officer	Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Bangkok
142	Sajid Iqbal	Research and Insights Lead	BRAC
143	Saleemul Huq	Director	International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD)
144	Samia Anjum	Director, FMO	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
145	Sarah Koeltzow	Policy Officer	Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD)
146	Sarder Shafiqul Alam	Coordinator	International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD)
147	Shabbir Sammad	Deputy Secretary	Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Government of Bangladesh
148	Shah Md. Ashrafal Alam Mohon	Assistant Secretary	Foreign Service Academy
149	Shahidul Islam Chowdhury	Special Correspondence	New Age
150	Shahriar Zaman		Dhaka Tribune
151	Shakirul Islam	Chairman	Ovibashi Karmi Unnayan Program (OKUP)
152	Shameem Ahsan	Ambassador & Permanent Representative of Bangladesh	Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to the UN Office & other International Organizations, Geneva
153	Shamsuddin Ahmed	Director	Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD)
154	Sheikh Rumana	General Secretary	Bangladeshi Ovhibashi Mohila Sramik Association (BOMSA)
155	Sheikh Shahriar Zaman	Special Correspondent	Bangla Tribune
156	Sidsel Bleken	Ambassador	Royal Norwegian Embassy in Dhaka, Bangladesh
157	Sonja Ayeb-Karlsson	Lecturer (Global Health), Brighton and Sussex Medical School; and Senior Researcher, Migration, Climate Change and Health	University of Sussex; and UNU Institute for Environment and Human Security
158	Soumyadeep Banerjee	Regional Migration Specialist	International Organization for Migration (IOM), Vienna
159	Steven Corliss	Representative	UNHCR Bangladesh
160	Sumaiya Islam	Executive Director	Bangladesh Nari Sangbadik Kendra (BNSK)
161	Syed Arif Hassan		Peace Foundation
162	Syed Masud Mahmood Khundoker	Principal, Foreign Service Academy	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
163	Syed Mizanur Rahman	Member Directing Staff (Joint Secretary)	BPATC, Ministry of Public Administration, Government of Bangladesh
164	Syed Saiful Haque	Chairman	WARBE Development Foundation
165	Syed Shabab	Programme Associate- Emergencies & Displacement Unit	International Organization for Migration, Bangladesh
166	Tareque Muhammad	Director General (SA)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
167	Umma Erinatuz Afroza	Assistant Secretary	Foreign Service Academy
168	Ummay Salma	Deputy Manager (Planning) & Market Research Officer	Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority, Prime Minister's Office, Government of Bangladesh
169	Walter Kaelin	Envoy of the Chair	Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD)
170	Zakaria Bin Suyaid	Assistant Secretary	Foreign Service Academy