As one of the progressive research think-tanks in Bangladesh, CPRD has been consistent in research and policy advocacy for establishing climate justice and full realization of SDGs. On climate justice CPRD emphasizes full implementation of the Paris Agreement 2015, and so far CPRD published a number of high quality policy papers on the key debated issues of the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement e.g. loss and damage, displacement and migration etc. that got significant attention both in national and international (UNFCCC) level.
Imprint:

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Introductory Statement

Dear Colleagues and Co-travellers,

Greetings!

On behalf of CPRD’s Executive Committee and its esteemed colleagues, I am very pleased and privileged to present you Annual Report of the Center for Participatory Research and Development-CPRD during the period from June 2017 to July 2018. This annual report featured CPRD’s major accomplishment under four broader priority areas e.g. research, advocacy, capacity building and networking, also provides a brief summary on CPRD’s research based publication.

During this time period CPRD implemented several researches on the contemporary issues of climate change and development, which include a) irreversible losses and damages by slow onset events, b) readiness of the insurance sector in transferring/offsetting climate induced loss and damages, c) socio-economic vulnerabilities of climate migrants living in the urban slums or trapped and exposed to increased risk situation, and d) transition in energy use in the low-income community living in the peri-urban areas.

Based on the research findings CPRD so far published a number of high quality policy papers on the key debated issues of PA e.g. loss and damage, displacement and migration etc. that got significant attention both in national and international (UNFCCC) level. Furthermore, CPRD organized several study sharing seminars, workshops, trainings, etc. to influence national and international policy stakeholders as well as to build capacity of the NGOs/CSOs working for climate and development justice.

Indeed, CPRD passed an incredibly busy year with significant achievements towards its aim and objectives. CPRD gratefully acknowledges and sincerely thanks to all of its stakeholders, development partners whose financial support and motivation inspired CPRD’s endeavor for establishing a just and fairer society.

Md Shamsuddoha
Chief Executive
Contents
CPRD and it’s Legal Status ................................................................................................................................. 2
Governance and Management .............................................................................................................................. 3
Programme Focus .............................................................................................................................................. 4
Research (Completed) ......................................................................................................................................... 5
Research (Ongoing) ............................................................................................................................................ 8
Networking and Advocacy ................................................................................................................................. 10
Capacity Building................................................................................................................................................ 13
Publications .......................................................................................................................................................... 14
Financial Statement ............................................................................................................................................. 17
Development Partners ......................................................................................................................................... 18
Network and Cooperation Partners ................................................................................................................... 19
CPRD and its Legal Status

Center for Participatory Research and Development—CPRD is an independent, non-profit, and progressive policy, research, and implementation institute. CPRD aims to promote alternative development ideas and policies at local, national, regional and global levels through its interactive activities like research, innovation, advocacy, solidarity and action. CPRD also engages itself in campaigning on social development issues and tailoring capacity building programs through identifying capacity gaps, organizing training for different development stakeholders. Apart from the core activities of socio-economic development of the disadvantaged population, policy research, policy literacy, policy advocacy, campaign and mobilization etc. also are the focus areas of CPRD’s work.

CPRD is registered as an independent, non-profit policy research and implementation institute under the Society Registration Act 1860 (Act XXI of 1860) with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Farms. (Registration No. S 7023(211)/07 dated 05 September 2007). CPRD also got registration from the NGO Affairs Bureau of the government of Bangladesh; Registration No. 3031, dated 24 July 2016.

CPRD, since its inception, has been working with a number of research organizations and academic institutions in country and abroad to support the survival strategies of the marginalized community people who are at-risk of climate change vulnerabilities and disaster extreme events. Besides implementing community based and participatory action researches, CPRD also regularly produces policy briefs, study reports and analyses on the key issues of country’s interest in relation to multilateral discussions and negotiations.

CPRD emphasizes participatory and people-centered development by exchanging, transferring and maximizing knowledge among the different actors and stakeholders and, generates innovative ideas, approaches, and appropriate technologies through participatory research developing models, demonstration and implementation. CPRD also works as a platform of policy advocates and researchers working as a hub among the development actors.

The internal professional staff and external fellows are grouped into five function-based interactive themes- a) economic justice and poverty alleviation, b) environmental justice for sustainable development, c) social justice for women and minority rights and, d) networking and capacity building of NGOs/CSOs e) north-south dialogue for equitable growth and trade justice.
Governance and Management

The Executive Committee (EC) of CPRD is the highest policy making body and governing entity. The EC members meet quarterly and provides overall organizational policy framework. The EC ensures effective and efficient implementation of policy direction and guidance with the overall policy framework in line with organizational vision, mission and objectives.

The EC committee reviews overall progress and plans annually and advice Chief Executive (CE) of CPRD on the policy issues of program implementation and sustainability. The executive committee members are selected by invitation who renders support generously for the greater interest of the people centered development.

The Chief Executive, who also the member secretary of the Executive Committee, leads the organization to keep up growth and institutional development toward objective, mission and vision. The Chief Executive also has the general responsibility for operating the day-to-day management functions and overall supervision of the programmes and operations.

CPRD facilitates people’s initiatives and exploring paths of social and economic transformation towards a Just, Participatory and Sustainable society.
Programme Focus

The programme focus of CPRD has been prioritized through a consultative process of discussion with the active participation of the executive committee members. Considering organizational goal and objectives, the EC members agreed on 11 thematic areas to work on priority basis. These thematic areas have been illustrated in the following diagram:

![Thematic areas of CPRD](image)

Figure 2: Thematic areas of CPRD
Research (Completed)

As one of the progressive national level policy think-tank CPRD so far implemented 4 issue based researches, with 3 ongoing, under its several research projects namely a) Advocacy to enhance climate justice for the LDCs, Bangladesh in Particular, under the Warsaw International Mechanism, supported by the Bread for the World, Germany, b) Energy On the Move: longitudinal perspectives on energy transitions among marginal populations (a comparative study), supported by the and c) Holding AIIB accountable for sustainable and climate-compatible Infrastructure development, supported by the CPRD projects provide equal emphasis on research and advocacy component so that research findings instigate necessary policy debate for instituting enabling policy framework on climate change, SDGs form justice and pro-people development perspectives.

On climate induced loss and damage, CPRD implemented an on-the-ground research on the irreversible losses and damages by both slow and extreme weather events. The research intends to investigate both economic and non-economic loss and damages and prepare cases from the global south primarily to inform national and global policy stakeholders to address climate induced loss and damages.

The research focuses the key questions like, a) current trend and prevalence of slow onset events in the climate hot-spots b) scenario of loss and damages associated with the slow onset events, c) existing policy spaces to address slow onset events and their effectiveness in implementation level, d) likely policy and institutional arrangement for addressing slow onset events.

Figure 3: Field data collection on loss and damage issue
The research outcome provided critical knowledge and contributed in minimizing knowledge gap on the climate induced loss and damages.

The research outcome has been shared/ communicated to the relevant policy stakeholders to help country delegations to the UNFCCC to build solid arguments for undertaking appropriate measures and mechanisms in local, national and international level. Also sensitized international CSOs, policy stakeholders (e.g. Executive Committee Members of WIM, delegation members of the countries in Global North) for rights and justice based solution of climate induced loss and damage.

The research also develops cases from the ground and establishes loss and damage (caused by slow onset and extreme events) a major cause as well as a push factor of displacement and migration. The case studies would support the arguments of the LDCs and other climate change vulnerable countries to establish a policy space to include displacement and migration in the loss and damage negotiation at the UNFCCC.

**On climate induced risk transfer**, CPRD implemented a study on the existing approaches of risk transfer and identified feasible options e.g. safety nets for transferring risks of loss and damage. On insurance, which is being considered as one of the approaches of risk transfer measures, CPRD implemented a research to assess institutional capacities and readiness of the insurance sector in Bangladesh to transfer/offset loss and damages associated with the impacts of climate change. This is to mention that among the approaches of addressing ‘loss and damages’ the climate risk insurance schemes and regional risk pooling have gained considerable momentum in the global discussions, especially in the UNFCCC process. However there are debates and disagreements on the appropriateness of insurance from the climate justice perspective as insurance is likely to promote market mechanism and may not cover losses caused by slow onset events like ocean acidification, salinity intrusion, loss of ecosystem services or loss of economic preferences etc. These risks occur in massive scale are not transferrable by market based mechanism. On the other hand, insurance is not for mass/massive destruction or mass claim. Insurance usually addresses loss claim of few people with the contribution of mass, not addresses loss claim of mass people. On the other hand, insurance sector in Bangladesh, also in many developing countries, is rather at rudimentary stage and considerably far away from getting benefits from the global processes.

Given that context the insurance readiness study in Bangladesh focuses key issues like, a) existing experiences of risk transfer mechanism in place b) what are the factors to be considered to make risk transfer mechanism a success, c) existing policy spaces to pilot/introduce risk transfer mechanism and their effectiveness in implementation level, d) alternative measures to offset extensive loss mass people, e) policy and institutional arrangement for introducing/piloting the mechanism that would address loss and mass people. The study in revels reveals that about 40% of the key informants (MD, DGM. CEO) don't have any knowledge
regarding climate change related risk transfer mechanism as most of the insurance companies don’t have any relevant product due to not having any directives from the government and lack of knowledge & institutional mechanism.

The research outcome develops a solid argument to the national and global policy stakeholders to undertake ‘a wide rage’ of risk transfer measures on the basis of risk and country context.

**On climate change induced displacement and migration**, CPRD implemented a research on the socio-economic vulnerabilities of climate migrants living in the urban slums or trapped and exposed to increased risks. The research intends to influence in developing a long-term relocation as well as resettlement plan of action with adequate skill and capacity development it is also important to ensure human rights based protection for the internally displaced person and for the left behind people. The research theme has been conceptualized from the primary understanding that the climate migrants are often excluded from enjoining basic services essential for survival and human development, also has to compromise enjoying of many international human rights instruments. Though several investigative media reports by national and international agencies published/broadcasted the causes of such forced migration but there is no specific study from the human rights perspective on the consequences that climate migrants face at their destination or trapped in the risky hotspots. People who dare to migrate as an attempt of survival face discrimination and human rights abuse. People either ‘move away’ or ‘trapped’ in the situation face another phase of discrimination and deprivation.

![Figure 4: People are being displaced due to cyclone Roanu in Bangladesh](Source: https://www.thenational.ae/world/cyclone-roanu-kills-23-in-bangladesh-1.181805)
Research (Ongoing)

During 2017-2018, CPRD gets involved with two multi-country research projects namely a) Energy On the Move: longitudinal perspectives on energy transitions among marginal populations (a comparative study) supported by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), UK, b) Holding AIIB (Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank) accountable for sustainable and climate-compatible Infrastructure development, supported by MISEREOR – the German Catholic Bishops’ Organisation for Development Cooperation.

Led by the Department of Anthropology, Durham University, the ‘Energy On the Move’ research is being implementing in Bangladesh, Nepal, Tanzania, Nigeria and South Sudan. It’s a collaborative research initiative of country specific academic and research institutions who are; CPRD and Independent University Bangladesh (IUB) in Bangladesh; Usmanu Danfodiyo University and University of Jos, Nigeria; Social Science Baha and Siddhartha Connecting Inc. Pvt. Ltd. In Nepal; and Rift Valley Institute and International Forum for Rural Transport and Development in Tanzania.

This research intends to understand better and develop routes to successful energy transition for the poorest and most disadvantaged living in extreme poverty and beyond current infrastructure networks in four low-income countries: Nepal, Bangladesh, South Sudan and Nigeria. The research focus on the lived experiences of marginal women, men and youth who persistently fall outside current market development mechanisms, un-connected with normal urban infrastructure networks or

Figure 5: Participants of the research inception meeting in Kenya
services, while also may cope with challenges of climate change and other environmental disasters in conditions of political fragility. Within the peri-urban context, the research would explore major barriers to better energy access and identify strategies and pathways which can enable such marginal women, men and youth to move from overwhelming dependence on biomass to more sustainable energy solutions such as solar power or biogas. Since high biomass usage is currently as much a transport as an energy issue in these locations, transport is an important interlinked element in the research schema.

In doing so, the project will challenge a core assumption of many sustainable energy projects - that the UN Sustainable Development Goal 7 on Energy for All will be met by consumers purchasing new energy technology on an individual and utilitarian basis. Instead the research would provide evidence through case studies of how and why experimentation in energy practices happens on the ground, in the lives of women, men and youth.

On the scope of the research project on AIIB, CPRD partnered with two German-based think tank and NGO, namely Germanwatch and the Climate & Development Advice. Given the context of AIIB’s expanding investment portfolio primarily in energy infrastructure development, the said research project aims to assess its strategies, policies and investment criteria those still under development – yet have the scope to shift the AIIB’s investment policy towards green finance. The research project will generate region specific knowledge and awareness on the concept of green financing that would be in line with the overall climate objectives of the Paris Agreement, also will provide facts and case-based information and analysis that would provide guidance for monitoring AIIB investments. The project is being implementing in the AIIB investment/member countries in collaboration with; Indian Network on Ethics & Climate Change (INECC), Russian-German Bureau for Environmental Information and the Greenovation Hub in China.
Networking and Advocacy

While CPRD is keen in implementing issue based researches, however it shares and communicates research findings to the relevant policy stakeholders and sensitize them to undertake required measures for addressing policy gaps and practice change. Besides CPRD, as the active members of several national and international platforms e.g. Climate Action Network South Asia (CANSA), Global Network on Disaster Reduction (GNDR) and the Network on Climate Change Bangladesh (NCC'B) promote public policy debate and practice changes through campaign, policy advocacy with micro macro linkages.

During 2017-2018, CPRD organized a national seminar on the ‘Readiness of the Insurance Sector in Offsetting Climate Change Induced Loss and Damages in Bangladesh’ to disseminate the study on the risk transfer mechanism in the context of Bangladesh. CPRD also partnered with several nation organizations e.g. Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB), Coastal Development Program (CDP) and the Network on Climate Change in Bangladesh (NCC'B) in organizing a national seminar titled “Loss and Damage: Evidence and Contemporary Policy Discourse’.

In a sideline event at COP 23 held in Bonn in 2017, Md Shamsuddoha, Chief Executive of CPRD took part in a discussion with Bishop Mr Heinrich Bedford-Strohm at the Talanoa Space of Blue Zone. Dr Heinrich Bedford-Strohm who used to teach theology and social ethics at Heidelberg, is the current chairman of the EKD, a German umbrella organization of Protestant, Lutheran and reformist churches.
Md Shamsuddoha briefly described the climate vulnerabilities of the people and communities living in the climate hotspots. He also underscored the urgency of addressing climate-induced 'loss and damages' and 'displacement and migration’ as the people in many climate vulnerable countries are already under undue burden of both economic and non-economic losses.

Signifying the rights and justice based political solution for the present climate crisis, Md Shamsuddoha requests Bishop Heinrich Bedford-Strohm to call on European Country delegation to COP 23 to put loss and damage high on the agenda item. He also hailed Mr Heinrich Bedford-Strohm for his earlier effort of calling European countries to do more to help refugees trying to reach the Continent, mainly from Africa, and also for urging swifter action to combat climate change.

Study tour on “Climate risk management and financing” by Bread for the World

Following the UNFCCC’s 48th SB Meetings held in Bonn in May 2018, Md Shamsuddoha, Chief Executive CPRD joined in a study tour organized by the BfD for its selected partners. The tour aimed to develop partner’s knowledge on climate risk research, coastal and flood protection, national and local risk management of extreme weather or hydrological events, agricultural or water management adaptation, climate risk mitigation and climate risk financing. Bread for the World (BfD) supports partner organizations in building-up their knowledge base, technical understanding and political capacities on the topics of climate adaptation, climate risk reduction and climate risk insurance / financing.
During a week-long tour the tour participants met with the officials of the United Nations University, the German development Bank, the Munich Re Foundation and the InsuResilience secretariat and discussed the possibilities to adapt to rising sea level, loss and damage finance in the case of Germany and the chances and limits of climate risk insurances. Selected experts form 15 partner of the Bread for the World from Asia-Pacific, Africa and Latin America joined the study tour. The participants also visited the City of Hamburg to see how a city adapts to floods and also visited the low-lying islands in the North Sea to experience how they adapt to sea level rise.

Figure 8: Participants of the Study tour on “Climate risk management and financing”
Capacity Building

Capacity building is one of the core objectives of CPRD’s work and the organization implements different training programmes, workshop and seminars to strengthen capacity of government and non-government stakeholders, practitioners and early career researchers on different climate change related issues.

Training on ‘Climate Change Induced Loss and Damage: Rhetoric and Reality’: CPRD organized this training to enhance understanding and build capacity of the relevant professionals in NGO’s, academic institutions, government agencies on climate change impacts, adaptation requirement, climate change-induced loss and damage scenario as well as national and global policy discourses of addressing loss and damage.

Mr. Thomas Hirsch, Executive Director of Climate and Development Advice, Germany, Mr. Mirza Shawkat Ali, Director of Climate Change and International Convention, Department of Environment, Bangladesh, Mr Shanka Saadi, Dr Nadiruzzaman, Assistant Professor, IUB and CPRD professionals facilitated different training sessions.

Training Workshop on Climate Change and South cooperation: CPRD takes part and facilitates a training the training workshop ‘Climate Change and South-South cooperation’ organized by CCDB. Participants from India, Nepal, and Bangladesh attended the training. The training workshop intends to build cooperation among South Asian countries on sharing good practice, research findings, and advocacy on the common issues with the national governments across the region.
Troubled Journey towards Climate Justice: Tackling Manifest Climate Injustice in the Loss and Damage Negotiation:

This publication is the outcome of the research titled “Study on the irreversible Losses and Damages by slow onset events” under the project titled “Advocacy to enhance climate justice for the LDC’s Bangladesh in Particular, under the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and damage”

This policy analysis summarizes contemporary evidences of irreversible L&D resulting from the localized and unusual extreme and slow onset events. Denoting loss and damage as a ‘manifest climate injustice’ to the LDCs and climate vulnerable countries this report put forward several recommendations to correct manifest climate injustice. The recommendations are: a) a standalone L&D agenda item under the SBI, b) a standalone L&D financing mechanism with multiple windows, c) strengthening institutional arrangement-global to national, d) new and additional L&D financing not blending with the humanitarian assistance, e) separate governance and fund management mechanism under the COP. The recommended policy positions may also guide the border policy stakeholders and CSOs to advocate for a justice-based response for addressing L&D on the ground.

For detail please click the following link


Climate-induced Displacement and Migration. Policy Gaps and Policy Alternatives

Considering climate-induced displacement and migration as a pressing global issue, this policy paper analyses the causes and consequences of forced displacement and migration, analyses existing protection mechanisms both in national and international level and argues for a new Legal Protocol under the UNFCCC for a long-term rights-based solution of the crisis.

This paper proposes six elements to be considered to the Protocol; they are: a) addressing causes of displacement and migration (both sudden and slow onset events) with a clear guideline in ‘Global Adaptation Goal’ and National Adaptation Plan with the provision of certain percentage of resources directly to the climate
vulnerable communities, b) clear indication and guideline on State activities for undertaking long-term relocation strategy within the country through social empowerment and economic capacity building, c) State protection mechanism (social safety nets) and support services for the people trapped in the risky hotspots and urban slums, d) human rights based protection for the climate induced internal and cross-border migrants, and trapped population e) provision for 'ex situ' adaptation (adaptation beyond boundaries) with of full fundamental rights as per constitution of the host country and f) provision for 'entire community' migration, especially for the sinking island nations who are under threat of forced eviction by the impacts of climate change such as sea level rise. On the web: http://cprdbd.org/climate-induced-displacement-and-migration-policy-gaps-and-policy-alternative/

Coastal and marine conservation strategy for Bangladesh in the context of achieving blue growth and sustainable development goals (SDGs): Published in the Environmental Science & Policy, Volume 87, September 2018, Pages 45-54

Given the context of the government’s noteworthy initiatives to enhance the ocean-based blue economy and achieve sustainable development goals, particularly SDG 14, this paper developed a detailed conservation strategy for the coastal and marine environment of Bangladesh. This paper outlined a comprehensive conservation strategy comprising of nine sectors, their objectives and the action plan towards achieving blue economic growth and achieving sustainable development goals of Bangladesh. On the web: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2018.05.014

Climate and Development Dialogue

It is a quarterly newsletter primarily features contemporary policy discourses on key climate change issues including loss and damage, displacement and migration, sustainable development etc. This particular issue covered a) an overview on the loss and damage negotiation at the UNFCC, b) Climate Risk Transfer by Insurance Mechanism: a snapshot on the barriers and opportunities of introducing crop insurance in Bangladesh, and c) The Plight of Climate Migrants in Urban Settings: Experiences of Dhaka city. On the web: http://cprdbd.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Dialogue-Issue_01.pdf
Readiness of Insurance Industries to Address Climate Change Risk Transfer in Bangladesh

Based on a thorough assessment on the readiness on the insurance sector in Bangladesh in transferring climate induced loss and damage, this report revealed that among the studies insurance companies only 2.5% have risk transfer schemes, however, all of which are in the primary stages of their development. While risk transfer mechanism is a broadly discussed issue in climate policy discourse, only 30% insurance companies (high officials only) holds preliminary knowledge on risk transfer mechanisms. According to the summary of the key informant’s interviews, 35% pointed out lack of government directives, 30% pointed out lack of institutional mechanism and 30% considered knowledge gap for not having risk transfer schemes in Bangladesh. This article is currently in press for printing.

Socioeconomic Consequences of Climate induced Human Displacement and Migration in Bangladesh

This article showed that the dramatic onset disasters usually caused mass displacement, while the slow onset disasters affected the environment, local ecosystem services and employment opportunities that forced people to undergo routine economic migration at first, followed later by permanent migration. This paper serves as important guidelines to policy makers, disaster managers and development practitioners for understanding as well as addressing climate change induced displacement and migration. On the web: [http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0268580917693173](http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0268580917693173)
Financial Statement

Financial statement of CPRD for fiscal year 2017-18 has been presented below
Development Partners
Network and Cooperation Partners