

# Fishers Perception on Climate Change Risk: An Adaptation and Mitigation Agenda for Coastal Bangladesh

Atiqur Rahman Sunny\*, Shamsul H. Prodhan, Md Ratul Hasan

*Professor, Department of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology  
Shahjalal University of Science and Technology,  
Kumargaon, Sylhet-3114, Bangladesh  
E-mail: shamsulhp@gmail.com*

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**Abstract**—Bangladesh is considered to be one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change. This study identifies the vulnerability of coastal fishing population of Bangladesh to the impact of climate change, their adaptation strategy and investigates the complicated relationship between the environmental risk, poverty and vulnerability using household questionnaires, oral history interviews, and focus group discussions in four fishing communities of Barguna, Bhola, Barisal and Patuakhali district. The result showed that frequent occurrence of natural calamities like cyclone, storm and tidal surge, fluctuation of temperature and wind velocity due to global climate change causes huge loss of life, property and brings untold sufferings and misery and allures migration tendency where women and children are more vulnerable. The cruxes include acute poverty, attack of pirates, unemployment, inflexibility to credit, illiteracy, lack of skills and alternative income source, insecurity of future generation, undeveloped communication system, sanitation problem, scarcity of medical treatment, outbreak of damning disease like malaria, typhoid and jaundice, slight of fishing laws and improper distribution of relief. Management strategies like construction of more cyclone centre having sufficient place for every person and separate place for women, introduction of community clinic cum cyclone centre, development of communication system, construction of embankment, mangrove a forestation to protect embankment, public private partnership for development activities, starting of rationing and M-banking system, vocational training, alternative employment opportunities, disaster management training, extra allowance) for doctor, low enforcing force and other governmental employee of coastal areas, appointment of people (graduate of fisheries and marine science) having knowledge on coastal resource and disaster management, assurance of sufficient buoys in boat, wireless network or specialized software response system and miking by navy in the sea to facilitate early warning, can provide pragmatic solution. By taking consideration of the study findings, appropriate management strategies could be undertaken.