

Date: February 19, 2023

MEETING MINUTES

Capacity Strengthening of Multi Actors to Limit Climate Impacts and Enhance Resilience (CAP-RES)

Meeting Place: 9th floor, DMK building, ICCCAD office, IUB.

Meeting Agenda: Kick-Off Meeting between the Embassy of Sweden in Dhaka and IUB-ICCCAD.

Participants:

Embassy of Sweden: Nayoka Martinez-Bäckström, Daniel Novak, Mostafizur Rahman and Munjerin Islam

IUB: Maruf Ahmad, Dr. Nazneen Islam Khan

ICCCAD: Prof. Saleemul Huq, Saqib Huq, Juel Mahmud, S. M. Saify Iqbal, Savio Rousseau Rozario, Shohail Bin Saifullah, Magnus Mayeen Ahmed, Gausia Islam Keya.

Discussion:

The meeting began with greetings and a round of introductions among the participants. Professor Huq delivered a welcoming message and then invited Mr. Juel Mahmud to present the overall project brief.

Daniel suggested looking at potential research which link health and climate within the Cap-Res Project and seeking research collaborations with different organizations. He emphasized the importance of considering health and gender-related issues as key aspects of the climate research and exploring opportunities for health research through, for example, the Ministry of Health's Climate Change Cell. iccdr'b was mentioned as a Sweden-supported research centre in Bangladesh. However, the

difference is that ICCCAD's research is focused on influencing policy and for implementation, while iccdr'b produces academic work.

One of the goals of providing research grants should be to cultivate next-level researchers who can lead the research project, publish scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals and apply for research grants independently. It was proposed that the research topics being planned be listed in the annual work plan of the CAP-RES project.

Local governments institutions (LGIs) are among the target recipients of climate adaptation capacity building by ICCCAD and there will be training modules designed for this group. Nayoka suggests to link up with UNDP to explore whether the participating LGIs (district-uppazilas-unions) of the Sweden-funded LoGIC program can be recipients of such capacity building. A meeting with UNDP will be arranged when the training modules are being developed by ICCCAD.

Regarding the capacity building of youth, Nayoka suggested to look at how the Sweden-supported, UNEP-led YECAP regional platform is helping youth networks including in Bangladesh to organize around information and knowledge-sharing hubs. It is also important that the Cap-Res youth activities engage promising young leaders based outside of Dhaka, especially those from climate-sensitive districts.

The agreement with Sweden outlines the deadlines for the narrative report, financial report, audit report, etc. Some of these reports are linked to the release of funds. If ICCCAD is not able to meet deadlines, then it has to send an email to the Embassy (Nayoka) to inform and agree on a new date for submission. All these reports are registered in the Swedish government archive system. Annual progress reports will become publicly available (through the government website www.openaid.se).

The result frameworks and Theory of Change need to be revised to make the outputs and outcomes SMART, and to see where gender equality, governance issues, and conflict risk can be incorporated or addressed. (On the information from ICCCAD that they have entered into an MoU with UN Women, Nayoka asked whether UN Women/Dilruba can advise the team on the effective integration of gender equality into the RF and ToC.)

Nayoka informed that institutional strengthening of ICCCAD is one of the objectives of the Swedish support. The Embassy will commission an organizational review during 2024 to identify areas of institutional improvement and strengthening. IUB/ICCCAD will be consulted in the development of the draft ToR for this review.

The newly recruited MEAL Manager should have experience in preparing the MEAL Framework and be able to predict change over time.

A name for the "Youth Fellows Program" needs to be decided. There should be a focus on building youth leadership capacity for community-based youth solutions, with an emphasis on capacity building rather than awareness.

To abbreviate the phrase "Capacity Strengthening of Multi Actors to Limit Climate Impacts and Enhance Resilience," the short form CAP-RES will be utilized.

On communications, a meeting between the ICCCAD and Embassy comms focal points will be arranged (ICCCAD to inform when they would like to have this meeting). Among the issues to discuss will be the comms strategy for CAP-RES, the right format for acknowledging the Sweden support and cooperation, using the right logos, etc.

The next meeting is scheduled for October.

Action Points:

1. Invite a representative from Embassy to the project planning workshop.
2. ICCCAD Comms focal will prepare comms and branding guidelines by consulting with Embassy's Comms team.
3. Project Inception workshop will be held in 3rd week of Mar'23.
4. Results framework and ToC to be updated based on recommendations.