



Learning and Sharing Workshop

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

September 2-5, 2024, Novem Eco Resort, Sreemangal



Executive Summary

The CAP-RES residential workshop, held from September 2 to September 5, 2024, at Novem Eco Resort, Sreemangal, brought together 36 participants from the CAP-RES team and other ICCCAD programs. The workshop aimed to review progress, share achievements, collect feedback, and chart a path forward for the project.

Over four days, the Management, Capacity Building (CB), Locally Led Adaptation (LLA), and Youth teams of CAP-RES project presented their progress, discussing successes, challenges, and plans for the future. Each session was followed by feedback discussions, where participants contributed ideas to refine the project's work plan and budget for the next phase.

The workshop also integrated interactive outdoor activities and group sessions to foster teamwork and collaboration. These activities, designed to emphasize focus and coordination, helped strengthen bonds among participants and reinforced essential skills needed for effective project management.

Additionally, group discussions generated valuable insights on new research topics, regions, and methodologies, offering guidance for upcoming CAP-RES initiatives. The workshop successfully concluded with a revised work plan and budget, enhanced collaboration across teams, and a clear strategy for future project implementation, ensuring the continued impact and success of the CAP-RES project.

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Training Agenda

Date	Time (GMT+6 Bangladesh Time)	Name of the Activity		
September 2	7:30 AM	Starting from IUB		
	10:30 - 11:00 AM	Breakfast (Near Voirab Bridge)		
	2:30 - 3:30 PM	Lunch at Venue (NOVEM Eco Resort)		
	9:00 - 9:30 PM	Dinner and next day briefing		
Date	Time (GMT+6 Bangladesh Time)	Name of the Activity	Facilitator	
September 3	9:15 - 9:30 AM	Registration	Gausia Islam Keya, Sanzida Islam	
	9:30 - 9:40 AM	Introduction of the participants (name, designation and project)	Gausia Islam Keya	
	9:40 - 9:50 AM	Objectives of the Workshop and its Agenda	Juel Mahmud	
	9:50 - 10:00 AM	Welcome Speech from Dr. Md. Hafizur Rahman	Dr. Md. Hafizur Rahman	
	Project Overview			
	10:00 - 10:20 AM	Project Briefing: Explanation of the Project Goals, Scope, and Requirements	Maria Aktar	
		Feedback session		
	10:20 - 10:30 AM	Assigning Homework to non-CAP-RES staff	Gausia Islam Keya and Juel Mahmud	
Tea/Coffee Break (10:30 -11.00 AM)				

September 3	Review and Planning		
	11:00 - 12:30 PM	Review and planning presentation of Management part of CAP -RES	Maria Aktar
		Feedback session	Sanzida Islam
	12:30 - 2:00 PM	Review and planning presentation of CB part of CAP -RES	S. M. Saify Iqbal
		Feedback session	Habibur Rahman
	Lunch Break (2:00 - 3:20 PM)		
September 4	Recap and Planning		
	9:00 - 9:30 AM	Recap of the previous Day and Overview of the Agenda	Gausia Islam Keya and Maria Aktar
	9:30 - 10:30 AM	Feedback from the Non-CAP-RES staff on the previous day assignment	Juel Mahmud
	10:30 - 11:30 AM	Review and Planning presentation of LLA part of CAP -RES	Savio Rousseau Rozario
		Feedback session	Rawnak Jahan Khan Ranon
	Tea Break (11:30 - 12:00 PM)		
	12:00 - 1:30 PM	Review and Planning presentation of Youth part of CAP -RES	Afsana Alim
		Feedback session	Al Mamun Rakib

September 4	Lunch (2:00 - 3:00 PM)		
	Evaluation and Closing		
	3:00 - 3:30 PM	Collect feedback from participants on the workshop	Saify Iqbal
	3:30 - 3:40 PM	Summarize the key takeaways and outcomes of the workshop	Juel Mahmud
	3:40 - 3:50 PM	Closing Speech	Dr. Md. Hafizur Rahman
	4:30 PM	Team photo	Bukhari Sainik
Tea Break (04.30 - 5.00 PM)			
September 5	7:30 - 9:30 AM	Breakfast	
	11:00 - 12:00 AM	Checkout and start for Dhaka	

1. Background

The Capacity Strengthening of Multi-Actors to Limit Climate Change Impacts and Enhance Resilience (CAP-RES) project, implemented by the International Center for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), is focused on enhancing the capacity of multi-actors at local, national, and regional levels to address climate change and strengthen resilience. Funded by the Embassy of Sweden in Dhaka, the project is set to run from January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2026, with a budget of 12 million SEK (120 million BDT).

The project's key objectives are to create an enabling environment for increasing climate change knowledge and problem-solving skills, generate evidence from local practices for global scaling, and improve institutional decision-making and effectiveness in climate interventions. The project has made substantial progress in its first year, achieving 100% of its goals for the first objective, 60% for the second, and 83% for the third, with an overall reach of 81%.

From September 2 to September 5, 2024, a residential workshop was held at Novem Eco Resort, Sreemangal. This workshop, the second in a series, aimed to review progress, gather feedback, and ensure that the project stays on course to meet its goals. The workshop brought together 36 participants from the CAP-RES project team and other ICCCAD programs to share achievements, discuss feedback and prepare for the annual submission of the revised work plan and budget to the donor.

2. Overview of the Workshop

2.1. Objectives of the Workshop

The primary objectives of the residential workshop were as follows:

- **Progress Sharing:** Present and discuss the achievements and progress of the CAP-RES project over the past one and a half years with key stakeholders, highlighting milestones, challenges, and successes.
- **Feedback Collection:** Gather insights and feedback from CAP-RES staff and other ICCCAD program staff to refine and revise the project's work plan and budget, ensuring alignment with project goals and donor expectations.
- **Annual Planning:** Prepare for the annual submission of the revised work plan and budget to the donor, scheduled for October 1 each year, by incorporating feedback and making necessary adjustments to enhance the project's effectiveness and impact.

2.2. Participants:

The workshop was attended by a total of 36 participants, comprising 18 members from the CAP-RES project team and 18 participants from other ICCCAD programs. This diverse group facilitated a comprehensive exchange of insights and experiences across different areas of the project and ICCCAD's broader initiatives.

2.3. Date and Venue:

The workshop was held as a four-day residential event from September 2 to September 5, 2024, at Novem Eco Resort in Sreemangal. The venue provided a conducive environment for in-depth discussions, collaborative activities, and team-building experiences.

2.4. Expected Outcomes:

- **Revised Work Plan and Budget:** Based on the feedback gathered, the workshop aimed to produce a revised work plan and budget for the next phase of the CAP-RES project, ensuring alignment with project goals and donor requirements.
- **Enhanced Collaboration and Learning:** The workshop sought to improve collaboration and shared learning among CAP-RES and ICCCAD staff, fostering better coordination and alignment of objectives across teams.

2.5. Workshop Activities:

- **Presentations:** Presentations were delivered by each of the project groups: Management, Capacity Building (CB), Locally-Led Adaptation (LLA), and Youth Team. Each presentation highlighted the group's progress, challenges, and plans.
- **Feedback Sessions:** After each group presentation, feedback sessions were conducted to gather insights and suggestions from participants, which were immediately incorporated into the ongoing project plans.

2.6. Additional Activities:

- **Daily Recap Sessions:** Each day began with daily recap sessions, reviewing the previous day's work and announcing the activities for the day ahead.
- **Group Activities and Games:** Interactive group activities and games were integrated into the workshop to enhance engagement, foster teamwork, and provide a break from formal sessions.

3. Session Description

3.1. Participants' Introductions and Inaugural Speech

Miss Maria Aktar, Assistant Project Manager of the CAP-RES project, formally requested that each participant introduce themselves, share their expectations for the workshop, and outline how they could contribute. The inauguration proceeded accordingly, with participants following this format. Dr. Hafizur Rahman, Head of the Department of Environmental Science and Management at Independent University, Bangladesh, then delivered the keynote address as the chief guest, sharing his academic journey and emphasizing the need for high-quality multidisciplinary research. Following his speech, Juel Mahmud, the CAP-RES project manager, outlined the workshop's objectives, setting a clear direction for the upcoming sessions.



Dr. Hafizur Rahman delivering the keynote address as the chief guest

3.2. Project Briefing: Explanation of the Project Goals, Scope, and Requirements

This session was led by Miss Maria Aktar, Assistant Project Manager of the CAP-RES project, on behalf of the project management team. She began by providing a detailed overview of the CAP-RES project, explaining its main pillars, timeline, and objectives. Miss Aktar highlighted that the project, running from January 2023 to December 2026 with a budget of 12 million SEK (120 million BDT), is funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and aims to enhance the capacity of multi-actors to address climate change impacts and strengthen resilience.

Miss Aktar then elaborated on the project's key development objectives, including fostering skill-building and knowledge enhancement, generating evidence from local practices for global scaling, and improving institutional efficiency in climate-related decision-making. She also described various programs and opportunities available, such as research grants, fellowships, internships, and youth-focused initiatives like the ICCCAD Youth Fellowship Programme and the Youth Innovation Fund. Additionally, she emphasized the importance of research, knowledge-sharing platforms, and capacity-building activities for local government officials, policymakers, and climate practitioners.

She concluded her presentation by outlining the project's ambitious targets, including issuing 60 research grants, awarding 80 fellowships, and conducting 600 capacity-building initiatives by 2026. Miss Maria Aktar then opened the floor for feedback and discussions, encouraging participants to share their thoughts and ideas regarding the project's goals and scope.



Miss Maria Aktar presenting an overview of the CAP-RES project

3.2.1. Feedback: Improving Outreach and Engagement

- **Feedback on Journalism and Media Engagement:** Participants emphasized the need for stronger collaboration with national media houses for broader outreach during the Conference of Parties (COP). Suggestions included organizing side events at COP focused on climate change and health, conducting policy dialogues, and broadcasting policy briefs and discussion outcomes. Participants also recommended hiring resource persons to train journalists in covering climate change-related news and conferences, while also empowering them with incentives to promote climate change-related stories on a larger scale.
- **Feedback on Grassroots-Level Youth Engagement:** There were calls to decentralize certain activities from Dhaka and extend efforts to engage more vulnerable youth groups, as current strategies primarily target university students and researchers. Participants proposed launching programs that include grassroots-level youth and those from remote regions. A past initiative by ICCCAD and Youth Climate Lab of Canada was highlighted as a model for engaging grassroots participants and university students, though it was noted that the project was not renewed after its first year.
- **Feedback on Strengthening Communication:** To ensure more effective outreach, participants suggested strengthening the communications team (coms team) to better engage with climate journalists and media outlets. Building connections with both print and online media houses, and initiating early planning to involve government stakeholders, were also suggested to facilitate broader dissemination of climate change-related information and advocacy efforts.



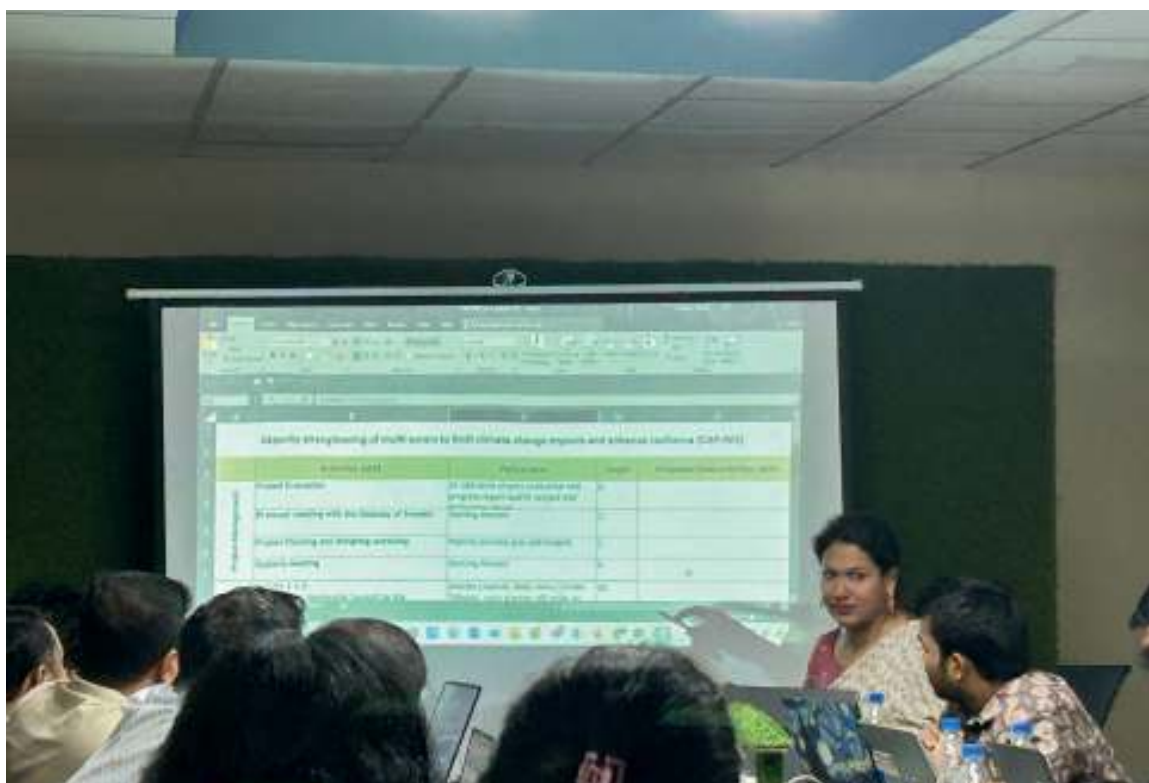
Research Intern Mr. Emon Gazi sharing feedback on grassroots environmental journalism

3.3. Review and planning presentation of the Management part of CAP-RES

In the second session, Miss Maria Akter provided an in-depth update on the CAP-RES project's progress and future activities. She began by reporting that 50% of the research grants had been disbursed, and the second cohort of interns had already commenced their internships, continuing the project's commitment to capacity-building for young researchers and professionals.

Miss Akter also outlined some of the challenges faced, particularly delays in the fund disbursement process, but reassured participants that the next round of grant applications would be released in October 2024. She emphasized that key activities such as the bi-annual meeting with the Embassy of Sweden and the internal quarterly meetings had played a vital role in keeping the project on track despite these challenges. A significant portion of her presentation was dedicated to upcoming plans, including policy dialogues focused on priority issues in collaboration with the Climate and Health Innovation Hub. Additionally, preparations for ICCCAD's side events at COP-29 were well underway, with these events aiming to bring together a diverse group of stakeholders—researchers, policymakers, youth delegates, and practitioners—to discuss innovative approaches to addressing climate resilience. She also mentioned progress made in the grant approval committee, which had been reformed to streamline the evaluation of research proposals. She highlighted the importance of the committee's efforts in supporting impactful research through grants and scholarships.

Finally, she reiterated the importance of continuing capacity-building activities for local governments, national policymakers, and civil society organizations. These initiatives, along with learning exchanges with international partners such as Swedish universities, are critical to enhancing resilience and scaling local practices globally.



Miss Maria Akter presenting the management overview and planning for CAP-RES

3.3.1. Feedback: Enhancing Outreach, Dissemination, and Support

- **Feedback on Expanding Outreach for Fellowships and Research Grants:** Participants shared ideas to help the fellowship and research grant circulars under the CAP-RES project reach more people. Key suggestions included targeted Facebook boosting, especially by region, and dividing areas into smaller sections to better connect with youth groups. They also recommended using platforms like Bdjobs for ads and creating a CV portal on the ICCCAD website to sort applicants by location. LinkedIn notifications and leveraging networks from the Gobeshona Global Conference were mentioned as additional ways to extend outreach.



Miss Maria Akter addressing feedbacks from the participants

- **Feedback on National Policy Dialogues and Training:** Participants called for more national-level policy dialogues, with suggestions to include Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) training to help participants learn and unlearn practices. Gendered agro-climate issues were also flagged as important topics to address. There was a strong recommendation to develop training manuals for similar projects, which could be shared online through the ICCCAD website.
- **Feedback on Knowledge Dissemination and Research Utilization:** To improve how knowledge from CAP-RES is shared, there were suggestions for launching an active YouTube channel for wider reach. They also proposed upscaling research by compiling findings each year and applying them in the next. For those new to research proposal writing, targeted training initiatives were recommended to provide better support.
- **Feedback on Budget Allocations and Research Support:** Participants offered several suggestions on budget improvements, including allocating 1 lakh BDT for each of the 10 nationwide research fellows and 5 M.Sc. fellowship winners from the Masters in Climate Change and Development Course at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB). Pairing fellows with university supervisors to enhance research outputs was also encouraged. Other recommendations included budgets for equipment like laptops, software, journal subscriptions, and the possibility of media fellowships for young climate journalists. Increasing the travel budget for research fieldwork was another key suggestion.

3.4. Review and planning presentation of the Capacity Building (CB) part of CAP-RES

This session was led by Mr. S M Saify Iqbal, Coordinator of the Capacity Building Programme. He presented a detailed review of the capacity-building activities undertaken in 2024, along with strategic planning for 2025.

Mr. Iqbal began by outlining the significant achievements of the Capacity Building team at various levels. He highlighted the Locally Led Adaptation and Building Community Resilience training in Rangamati, which focused on key topics like climate science, locally led adaptation (LLA), climate-resilient livelihoods, and project cycle management. Special attention was given to integrating women-friendly practices into adaptation projects. Mr. Iqbal emphasized that this training was successfully completed and provided critical support to the communities in Rangamati.



Mr. S M Saify Iqbal reviewing the Capacity Building team's progress, challenges and upcoming plans

At the national level, Mr. Iqbal discussed the upcoming training scheduled for the first week of December, focusing on navigating the outcomes of COP-29, with a particular emphasis on adaptation and loss and damage. This training will target government officials, NGOs, youth groups, and CSOs. Mr. Iqbal acknowledged previous challenges in involving government officials and proposed steps to ensure their inclusion in future trainings, including budget adjustments for resource persons who will help facilitate government participation.

Additionally, Mr. Iqbal provided updates on the Short Course on Addressing Locally Led Adaptation and Local Loss and Damage, scheduled for September 30 to October 3, 2024. He covered agenda finalization, resource person brainstorming, venue confirmation, participant selection, and module development, all of which were well underway.

For the regional level, he announced an Online Short Certificate Course on global climate change negotiations, running from November 13, 2024, to January 31, 2025. This course, aimed at participants from LDC countries and LUCCC partners, will offer an in-depth understanding of COP-29 outcomes, with a specific focus on adaptation and loss and damage.

One of the major points in Mr. Iqbal's presentation was the development of an online platform to host capacity-building materials, including a certificate e-course. He noted that the Terms of Reference (ToR) for this platform had been submitted to IUB, with a consultancy announcement scheduled for the second week of September. He also highlighted the collaboration with Swedish universities, aimed at knowledge exchange and joint research initiatives. This partnership is designed to strengthen capacity-building efforts by sharing best practices and conducting training programs focused on climate-induced loss and damage and LLA.

Mr. Iqbal concluded by addressing the challenges faced, particularly in terms of budget constraints. He proposed focusing on a year-long capacity-building program that targets a local cohort from Kurigram and Rangpur zones. This, he argued, would allow the team to concentrate resources on measurable outcomes over the final two years of the project. He stressed the need for budget revisions to support these new priorities and ensure the project's sustainability. The session wrapped up with a discussion on follow-up strategies to monitor the impact of training sessions and ways to ensure long-term knowledge transfer for future participants.



The chief guest Dr. Hafizur Rahman observing planning and activity overview of the CB team

3.4.1. Feedback: Improving LHE and Capacity Building Efforts

- **Feedback on Learning Hub Event (LHE) and Capacity Building Activities:** Participants provided certain recommendations concerning the Learning Hub Event (LHE) arrangements. Due to unstable political dynamics, progress in organizing the event has been delayed. A follow-up from Mr. Noor-E-Elahi Noor is required, and it was suggested that efforts be made to host at least one LHE by December. Collaboration with government employees, particularly from the Department of Environment (DoE) and other relevant government organizations, should be prioritized.
- **Feedback on Local Level Training (LLT) Workshops:** Participants proposed that previous cohorts from locations such as Rangamati and Kurigram, who have already received training, be brought to Dhaka for a residential workshop to refresh and extend their learnings. This would be followed by a series of online workshops (webinars) by December to address any challenges they face. Meanwhile, new cohorts from locations like Khulna, Shatkhira, and Sunamganj could be formed to expand the reach of these capacity-building initiatives.
- **Feedback on Proposal Development Workshops:** There were suggestions to make proposal development workshops residential. These workshops could cover donor outreach and proposal writing, focusing on bridging the gap between writing a proposal and securing funding. Participants emphasized the need for more effective local-level training over the next two years to support fund mobilization efforts.
- **Feedback on Short Courses and Government Employee Involvement:** The LLA and LnD short courses are free, but participants suggested focusing more on local-level participants and gradually decentralizing from Dhaka. Participants noted the lack of government employee involvement in workshops and recommended ensuring that 20-30% of participants be from government organizations. It was also advised to start early when inviting government employees, as it can take up to three weeks to confirm their participation.
- **Feedback on Media Involvement and Budget Allocation:** Participants proposed involving senior media employees from outlets like The Business Standard and The Daily Star to better cover climate issues and locally led adaptation strategies. A variation in participants should be ensured, and environmental journalists with COP experience should be hired to train media house participants. The budget for resource persons should be increased, and ICCCAD staff could also be capacitated to serve as internal resource persons. International experts, if possible, should be included as well, and workshops should be made more interactive.
- **Feedback on Youth Negotiator Workshops:** The Youth Negotiator Workshop was highlighted as a potential initiative, with 16 climate negotiators already involved. Participants suggested expanding the program to include 15 more participants, who could be selected via an application process, with learning sessions planned for the next 4-5 months.

- **Feedback on Online Platform Development:** More communication with the CITS (Communication, Information, Technology System Support) team was recommended to further develop the online platform for capacity-building activities.
- **Feedback on Knowledge Exchange and Health Issues:** Participants suggested strengthening partnerships with Swedish universities to facilitate experience exchange between Swedish professors and ICCCAD experts. They also stressed the importance of focusing more on the intersection of climate change and health, developing strategies for follow-ups.
- **Feedback on Workshop Materials and New Activities:** There was feedback that workshop materials should be more creative and interactive, moving away from purely reading-based resources. The CB team was encouraged to propose new activities ahead of COP to take advantage of the available time.



Mr. Habibur Rahman and Mr. S M Saify Iqbal addressing feedbacks from the participants

3.4.2. Group Work: Strategies for Sustainability and Follow-Up

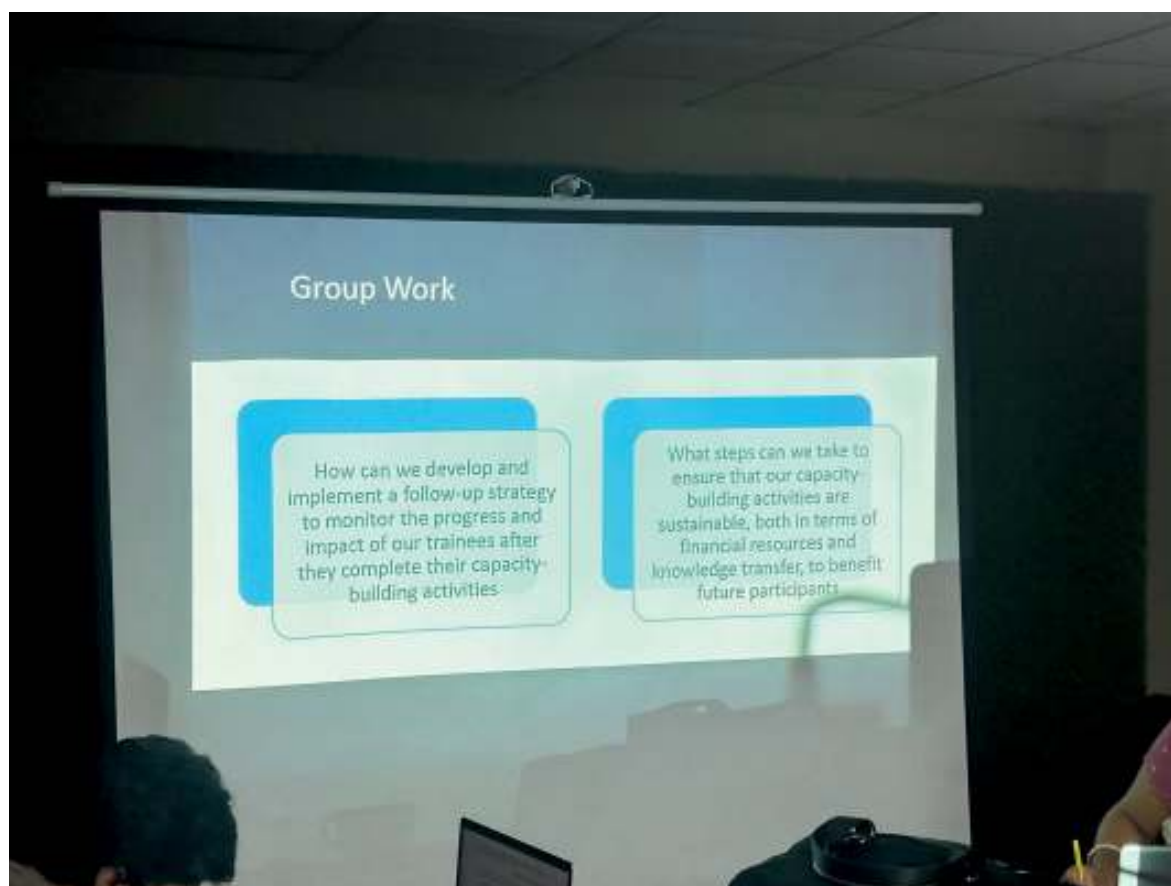
After the feedback session, Mr. S M Saify Iqbal introduced a group work exercise to engage participants in exploring strategies to improve the sustainability and impact of the Capacity Building (CB) initiatives under CAP-RES. Two key questions were posed:

- **How can we develop and implement a follow-up strategy to monitor the progress and impact of our trainees after they complete their capacity-building activities?**
- **What steps can we take to ensure that our capacity-building activities are sustainable in terms of financial resources and knowledge transfer to benefit future participants?**

Participants were divided into two groups based on their seating arrangement: odd-numbered seats formed one group, and even-numbered seats formed the other. Each group was tasked with brainstorming solutions for one of the questions.

The discussions were productive, with ideas ranging from implementing a digital tracking system to monitor the progress of trainees, to conducting regular follow-up surveys and workshops to keep them engaged. For sustainability, suggestions included building partnerships with international organizations for continued funding and establishing platforms for knowledge sharing to extend the impact of the training.

All outputs were collected on sticky notes and will be reviewed by the project team for future integration into the capacity-building framework.



Group work questions presented by the CB team to the participants

3.5. Review and Planning presentation of LLA part of CAP-RES

The Review and Planning Presentation of the LLA part of CAP-RES, led by Mr. Savio Rousseau Rozario, started with a fun outdoor activity designed to emphasize the importance of "Focus" in research. Male participants had to insert a pen hanging from a rope tied around their waist into a bottle, while female participants balanced a marble on a spoon in their mouths and walked to a finish line. The activity highlighted how maintaining focus is key to success in research.

Following the outdoor game, Mr. Rousseau Rozario detailed the LLA team's achievements and future plans. He highlighted two major research projects conducted over the past two years:

Exploring Village Common Forest (VCF): Assessing the Impacts of Climate Change in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. This research focused on the effects of climate change on water scarcity and livelihoods in VCFs, while also examining management and adaptation strategies employed by local communities. The findings were published in Climate Tribune and presented at conferences such as CBA 17, COP 28, and Gobeshona Global Conference. Additionally, workshops on VCF management were held in Indonesia and Rangamati.

From Risk to Resilience: Engaging Educational Institutions to Reduce Disaster Risk and Strengthen Community Resilience in the Haor region of Tahirpur, Sunamganj. The desk review and field research for this project have been completed, and data analysis is underway. This research is part of the DPLLA (Disaster Preparedness through Locally Led Adaptation) cross-learning platform, which connects participants from Mymensingh, Sylhet, and Chittagong.

While the team faced challenges such as uncertainties in field research, they are addressing these issues through APC support and a focus on manuscript writing and expert reviews. Moving forward, they plan to develop a Risk Assessment Matrix and organize a research dissemination workshop in the study area.



Mr. Savio Rousseau Rozario presenting the 2-year overview of the LLA team

3.5.1. Feedback: Enhancing Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) Efforts

- **Feedback on Scaling LLA Research and Initiatives:** Participants emphasized the importance of expanding the LLA research and capacity-building initiatives to new regions. They recommended scaling up efforts in Mymensingh, Sylhet, and Chittagong through the DPLLA platform. This would help ensure a broader regional representation of locally-led adaptation practices and increase cross-learning opportunities across regions.
- **Feedback on Research Dissemination and Collaboration with Communities:** Participants stressed the need for efficient dissemination of research findings to local communities. It was suggested that more research dissemination workshops be organized to share best practices and lessons learned with relevant stakeholders. Strengthening collaboration with local communities was also seen as crucial to the success of LLA projects.
- **Feedback on Addressing Field Research Challenges:** Challenges regarding field research logistics and uncertainty were highlighted. Participants recommended implementing stronger logistical support systems to address these hurdles. They also pointed out the need for a structured framework for manuscript writing and expert reviews to improve the overall quality of the research.
- **Feedback on Publishing and APC Support:** Participants noted the importance of securing Article Processing Charges (APC) support for publishing research in international journals. This would help enhance the visibility and global reach of the findings from LLA initiatives.
- **Feedback on Expanding Research Scope:** It was suggested that the LLA team incorporate a Risk Assessment Matrix into future research to better align local-level adaptation strategies with global best practices. This would allow communities to better prepare for climate risks and enhance their resilience.



Mr. Rownak Jahan Khan of team LLA addressing the key highlights of their research progresses

3.5.2. Group Work: Building Research Ideas

Following the feedback session, participants were asked to engage in a collaborative group work exercise designed to generate fresh ideas for future research initiatives under the LLA program. Each group was tasked with addressing four key questions:

- **Suggest a research topic**
- **Which region of Bangladesh should be covered?**
- **What should be the reason for selecting this region?**
- **What methodology would you suggest?**

The groups discussed these questions in detail, bringing forward a wide range of research topics focused on locally-led adaptation, climate resilience, and community engagement. Participants highlighted various regions of Bangladesh where these topics could be explored, offering justifications for why those areas are relevant based on local climate challenges, geographic diversity, or socio-economic factors.

Suggestions for methodologies included participatory research, field surveys, and mixed methods approaches, emphasizing the need to involve local communities and integrate both quantitative and qualitative data. The outputs from this group work session were collected for further review by the LLA team, to incorporate these ideas into future research planning and implementation.



Moments from the Focus-building activities and group work questions on research ideas

3.6. Review and Planning presentation of Youth part of CAP -RES

In this session, Ms. Afsara Alim presented the progress, challenges, and ideas for the Youth component of the CAP-RES project. The Youth Fellowship 2024 has seen significant progress, with the workshop and field visit already completed, online classes 20% finished, and the selection of candidates for international conferences nearing completion at 90%. The Youth Fund has achieved 70% of its targets, and policy dialogue and award activities are at 10%.

The Youth Innovation Fund has also made headway, with the first installment disbursed and several youth-led projects already underway, marking 60% overall progress. Group discussions during the session addressed key areas like fellow and grantee selection, as well as strategies for improving the dissemination of application calls.

However, several challenges were identified, including a lack of monitoring and evaluation systems, delays in grant disbursement, and low competition for international participation. In response, Ms. Alim outlined several ideas for the coming year, such as creating divisional youth forums to encourage regional involvement, publishing reports, videos, and magazines to highlight youth achievements, and boosting competition for international opportunities.

The team also plans to reduce the number of youth fellows from 6 to 4 to enhance the quality of mentorship. A monitoring system for the Youth Innovation Fund will be implemented to ensure better oversight of ongoing projects and their impact. Ms. Alim concluded by emphasizing the need for stronger youth engagement in both national and international climate platforms, particularly in upcoming COP conferences.



Ms. Afsara Alim presenting the progress and future plans for the Youth part of CAP-RES

3.6.1. Feedback: Enhancing Youth Engagement and Capacity Building

- **Feedback on Youth Fellowship and Innovation Fund:** Participants highlighted the need for stronger monitoring and evaluation systems to track the progress and impact of youth-led projects, particularly those funded by the Youth Innovation Fund. They also emphasized the importance of ensuring timely grant disbursements to avoid project delays. Additionally, it was suggested that more efforts be made to increase competition for international conference participation, as engagement in these opportunities has been relatively low.
- **Feedback on Regional Youth Forums and Communication Strategies:** There was widespread support for the idea of creating divisional youth forums to foster greater regional participation in youth programs. Participants also recommended enhancing the dissemination of calls for applications, using targeted outreach strategies to ensure wider reach among potential applicants. Publishing reports, videos, and magazines to showcase the achievements of youth fellows and grantees was also seen as a valuable way to increase visibility and engagement.
- **Feedback on Youth Fellow Selection and Program Size:** The proposal to reduce the number of youth fellows from 6 to 4 was generally well-received, with participants agreeing that this would allow for more focused mentorship and better-quality training. It was suggested that future calls for applications be more tailored to specific skill sets and leadership potential to ensure the most promising candidates are selected.
- **Feedback on International Opportunities:** Participants urged the project team to explore more ways to increase youth participation in international climate platforms, such as COP conferences. Boosting competition for these opportunities could be achieved by increasing awareness through targeted outreach and by providing clearer guidelines on the benefits of international engagement for personal and professional growth.



Ms. Munia Tahsin expressing her feedback to the Youth team

3.6.2. Group Activity: Youth Fellow Selection and Dissemination Strategies

After the feedback session, the Youth team led a group activity to gather input on improving the Youth component of CAP-RES. Participants, divided into groups based on seating, discussed three key questions:

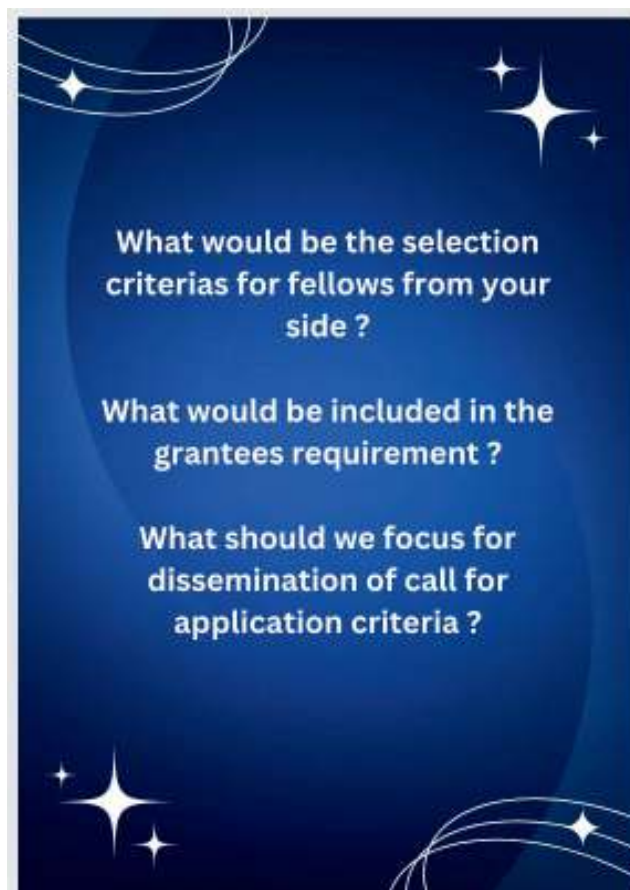
- **What would be the selection criteria for fellows?**
- **What should be included in the grantee requirements?**
- **What should we focus on for disseminating the call for applications?**

For fellow selection, participants suggested prioritizing leadership skills, regional diversity, and climate action experience. They also proposed assessing candidates' ability to commit to the fellowship period.

Regarding grantee requirements, recommendations included regular progress reports, clear deliverables, and adding mentorship and peer-review mechanisms to support grantees' growth and ensure project alignment with CAP-RES goals.

For dissemination, participants emphasized the need for targeted social media outreach, partnerships with universities and youth organizations, and using video testimonials from previous fellows. A dedicated application portal was also proposed to streamline the process.

The suggestions from this group activity will be reviewed and considered for future planning and dissemination strategies.



The questions that were asked for the group activity by the Youth team

4. Conclusion

The CAP-RES residential workshop successfully achieved its objectives of reviewing progress, gathering valuable feedback, and planning for the next phase of the project. Over the course of four days, participants engaged in productive discussions, collaborative group work, and interactive activities that fostered teamwork and deepened understanding of the project's goals.

Presentations by the Management, Capacity Building (CB), Locally Led Adaptation (LLA), and Youth teams provided a comprehensive overview of the project's achievements and challenges, while feedback sessions allowed for open dialogue on how to refine and improve future strategies. The outdoor activities and group work sessions contributed to building essential skills, such as focus and collaboration, which are crucial for the project's continued success.

The workshop culminated in a revised work plan and budget, aligned with project goals and donor expectations. This outcome, combined with the strengthened relationships and enhanced collaboration across teams, positions the CAP-RES project to continue making a meaningful impact on climate resilience and locally led adaptation efforts in Bangladesh.

Looking ahead, the CAP-RES team is well-prepared to implement the next phase of the project with a clear roadmap and renewed commitment to building resilience and addressing climate change challenges at the local level.

Annex 1: Participants' List

Name	Designation	Organization
Prof. Dr. Hafizur Rahman	PI & Head of DESM	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Gausia Islam Keya	Project Assistant	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Habibur Rahman	Research Officer (CB)	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Juel Mahmud	Project Manager	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Maria Aktar	Assistant Project Manager	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
S M Safy Iqbal	Program Coordinator	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Afsana Alim	Project Officer (Youth)	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Md. Tahseen Ahmed	Research Intern	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Sumiya Binte Selim	Program Coordinator (Youth & Gender)	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Almamun Rakib	Youth Representative	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)

Name	Designation	Organization
Mazadul Haque Bayzid	Research Officer	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Md. Sifat Hossain	Project Officer	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Maliha Momotaj Himu	Research Officer	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Md. Lutfor Rahman	Research Officer	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Jannat Ara Shifa	Gender Analyst	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Emon Kazi	Intern	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Nusrat Jahan Rubaita	Intern	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Tanjib Islam	Intern	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Bushra Anjum	Research Assistant	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Farhin Rahman Reeda	Research Officer	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Nazmus Sakib	Research Officer	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Md. Hafizur Rahman	Program Coordinator	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)

Name	Designation	Organization
Munia Tasin	Research Officer	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Nafia Saddaf	Junior Research Officer	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Nishat Tasnim	Research Officer	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Ahasan Habib	IT Officer	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Sanjida Islam	Research Intern	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Fariha Jahan Biva	Research Associate	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Rawnak Jahan Khan Ranon	Research Officer	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)
Savio Rousseau Rozario	Program Coordinator (LLA)	International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD)