

# THE ROLE OF RESEARCH INSTITUTES IN CAPACITY BUILDING FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE



Organized By

International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD)

Supported by - Embassy of Sweden

Date: 18:00 -19:30 (Baku Local time), 20th November 2024

Location: SHARE Hub (E6), COP-29 Blue Zone, Baku

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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On November 20, 2024, the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) hosted a learning and dissemination reception at COP-29 in Baku. The event focused on the role of research institutes in capacity building for climate resilience. It brought together representatives from civil society organizations (CSOs), donor agencies, academia, and global institutions to discuss how research-driven approaches can enhance climate adaptation. Syeda Rizwana Hasan, Advisor to the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, attended briefly and commended the efforts of the organizing team.

The event facilitated discussions on research-led capacity building, locally-led adaptation, policy advocacy, and inclusive climate resilience efforts. Key participants included representatives from GSCC, WaterAid, the Embassy of Sweden, ISS, Rutgers University-New Brunswick, the Center for Climate Justice, IIED, UN Environment Program, Brighters, IDMC, CCDB, and LEADERS

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# INTRODUCTION

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As the climate crisis intensifies, research institutions play a crucial role in building resilience by equipping stakeholders with the necessary knowledge and skills. This side event aimed to highlight how research institutes contribute to capacity building through partnerships, training programs, and knowledge dissemination. The discussions focused on evidence-based strategies to empower vulnerable communities and promote locally-led adaptation (LLA) initiatives.

# EVENT AGENDA

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- **Opening Remarks** – Overview of ICCCAD’s work in capacity building By Juel Mahmud
- **Keynote Presentation** – The role of research in climate resilience by Sumaiya Binte Selim
- **Interactive Discussions** – Engaging participants in knowledge-sharing and strategy development
- **Closing Remarks** – Summary of discussions and way forward

# OBJECTIVES

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The event aimed to:

- Showcase the role of research institutions in enhancing climate resilience.
- Strengthen collaboration between research institutes, governments, and CSOs.
- Develop actionable recommendations for integrating research-driven capacity building into climate policies and funding mechanisms.

# OPENING SPEECH

Syeda Rizwana Hasan, Advisor to the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, inaugurated the session by emphasizing the importance of research-based solutions in climate adaptation. She acknowledged ICCCAD’s contributions to climate discourse and commended its efforts in knowledge dissemination and youth engagement.





## INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION

The interactive session provided a platform for diverse stakeholders to share insights on climate resilience strategies. Key discussion points included:

- Best practices in research-driven capacity building
- The importance of locally-led adaptation (LLA)
- The role of research institutions in policy advocacy and knowledge transfer
- Ensuring inclusivity in climate adaptation efforts

Representatives from GSCC, WaterAid, the Embassy of Sweden, ISS, Rutgers University-New Brunswick, Center for Climate Justice, IIED, UN Environment Program, Brighters, IDMC, CCDB, and LEADERS actively participated in the discussions, sharing their perspectives and experiences.

## HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY FINDINGS

- **Research-Driven Capacity Building** – Research institutes must align their work with community needs to develop effective adaptation strategies.
- **Locally-Led Adaptation (LLA)** – Grassroots solutions must be prioritized, with local actors playing a central role.







- **Policy Advocacy and Knowledge Transfer** – Strengthening partnerships between research bodies and policymakers is essential for effective climate action.
- **Inclusive Capacity Building** – **Gender equity**, youth participation, and the inclusion of marginalized groups are crucial for holistic climate resilience efforts.

## CLOSING REMARKS AND CONCLUSION

The event concluded with a call to action for research institutions to strengthen their role in capacity building. Participants agreed on the need for sustained collaboration between academia, governments, and civil society organizations to enhance climate resilience. ICCCAD reaffirmed its commitment to knowledge-sharing and fostering locally-led adaptation strategies.

The side event successfully provided a platform for exchanging ideas, fostering partnerships, and highlighting the critical role of research in climate adaptation. Moving forward, continued engagement and collaboration will be essential in implementing the insights gained from this discussion.

