

## Terms of Reference (ToR): Mentorship and Financial Support for Young Researchers 2026

### Introduction

The impacts of climate change are an impeccable reality in Bangladesh. Hence, it is imperative to attain resilience, which can be achieved through various capacity-building efforts, particularly in evidence generation, knowledge development, and innovation.

In such scenario, the International Center for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), in collaboration with the Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), and with the financial support of the Sweden government under the ‘Capacity Strengthening of multi-actors to limit climate change impacts and enhance resilience (CAP-RES)’ project is inviting enthusiastic students, early career researchers, scholars and professionals to submit their expression of interest to receive research grants up to 1,00,000 BDT (Bangladeshi Taka), and mentorship support from professionals and experts.

Through this support, we expect the successful grantees to play an influential role in shaping and contributing to evidence generation and capacity building in the critical nexus of climate change and development.

### Thematic Areas

The priority thematic area for the research grant is as follows:

- Locally Led adaptation (LLA)
- Loss and Damage
- Climate Finance
- Climate and Nature (e.g., NbS, EbA)
- Climate Mobility (e.g., Displacement)
- Inclusion and Climate Justice
- Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation
- Adaptation Technology
- Indigenous Knowledge
- Climate and Gender
- Other (related to Climate Change)

### Eligibility

- Must be a Bangladeshi citizen and currently residing in Bangladesh.
- Master's level students and early career researchers from any university and organizations from Bangladesh.
- Having a sound academic background and a genuine interest in conducting research activities.
- Possessing basic knowledge and understanding of climate change.
- Intermediary experience in conducting research and data analysis (qualitative and quantitative).
- Possessing peer-reviewed publication or any form of publication is preferable.

- Commitment to be engaged in the research activity wholeheartedly, and ensure the research work is conducted within the timeline.

## We are Offering

- Financial (up to 1,00,000 BDT, all-inclusive and on condition) support.
- Mentorship support from ICCCAD Officials and Experts.

**Note:** Once finalized, ten (10) research grantees will receive support from ICCCAD personnel in framing research problems, developing methodological strategies, and supporting theoretical development, particularly in the co-creation of knowledge. To obtain expert opinion on their study and career guidance, each grantee can be paired with an ICCCAD resource person, depending on their research interests, upon timely request.

## We Request

- Each applicant must affiliate with a potential supervisor from their respective organizations/institute/university and include the supervisor's details when submitting the proposal.
- The supervisor will be responsible for overseeing the research activities and the timely submission of each deliverable along with the research grantee.
- A detailed budget (Maximum amount of 1,00,000 BDT, all inclusive) and a timeline to conduct the research.

## Timeline

The grant duration is for one year (January - December 2026).

## Selection Process

Each applicant must meet the basic selection criteria outlined below to have their application accepted. An internal team of ICCCAD, IUB, and an external grant committee comprised of subject matter experts will evaluate the submitted proposal. The evaluation criteria are:

| Sl.          | Evaluation Criteria                                                                             | Point      |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 1            | Innovative research proposal that addresses/aspires to document climatic challenges and impacts | 20         |
| 2            | Inclusion of the climate-vulnerable community                                                   | 15         |
| 3            | Feasible to conduct the research                                                                | 10         |
| 4            | Clarity on research objective, aim, potential outcome, and impact                               | 15         |
| 5            | Clear methodology, including clear implementation strategies                                    | 15         |
| 6            | Includes a sustainability plan that benefits society, community, and the environment            | 15         |
| 7            | Relevant experience in undertaking research activities                                          | 10         |
| <b>Total</b> |                                                                                                 | <b>100</b> |

**Note:** Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for further evaluation.

## Reporting

The selected applicant will submit **an interim progress report** (in June 2026) and a **final research report** (in December 2026) to the project team upon completion of the research.

## Payment Modality

The 50% fund will be disbursed in advance to the awarded individuals directly, while the remaining 50% will be disbursed upon the submission of the final research report.

## How to Apply

Every applicant must submit a research proposal of **no more than three (3)** pages along with the application form.

The research proposal must include: **Research Title and 3-5 keywords, Background, Rationale, Problem Statement, Research Objectives and Questions, Methodology, Potential Outcomes and Impacts, Detailed Budget, and Timeline.**

Access the application form: please click [here](#).

The deadline for the application is **31<sup>st</sup> October 2025**.

For further information, please email [samiha.saleha@icccad.org](mailto:samiha.saleha@icccad.org)