

Scenario guided strategic planning for a climate resilient Bangladesh



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CCAFS Scenarios Program

- Combined socio-economic and climate **scenarios** developed for six global regions: East and West Africa, South and Southeast Asia, Andes and Central America
- **Stakeholder-driven**; quantified through agricultural economic models; linked to IPCC community's Shared Socio-economic Pathways
- With **240 partner organisations** including (and co-funded by) FAO, UNEP WCMC, Oxfam, regional economic bodies, regional and national stakeholders
- **Goal:** scenarios help decision-makers develop better national and regional **policies, investments and institutional structures**, supported by key **global and regional actors**
- (Vermeulen et al. 2013, Chaudhury et al. 2013, Vervoort et al. 2014)

Developing Scenarios

- Scenarios are multiple **“what if?”** stories about the future, expressed in **words, through numbers, maps, graphics**
- Scenarios can be used to explore different **directions** of change – in climate, markets, governance and other key factors
- Scenarios are **not** predictions
- Scenarios are a tool for **testing** strategies, they are not strategies themselves – they represent **contexts**
- What are the key **factors of change** for future food security, rural livelihoods, environments?
- How do these factors of change **interact together** to create different **possible futures**?
- How likely are our plans, policies, investments to **succeed** in any of these scenarios?
- What **different directions can they take**?
- **Different combinations** of directions for factors = different scenarios
- The most diverse scenarios are used to test policies in **widely different conditions**
- Combining **socio-economic** and **climate** scenarios

Scenarios as a tool to guide planning

- CCAFS scenarios as a development-driven project = focused on guiding **change in decision-making** (policies, investments, institutions, implementation)
- Scenarios = tools to challenge plans and improve **robustness, flexibility and concreteness** – can be used by those writing policies, investments to lend credibility to their plans
- Scenarios = tools to **scope regional key issues** according to stakeholders, develop regional CCAFS priorities, develop networks
- Scenarios development = **inclusive**, scenarios use = more **focused**
- **Demand driven** increases likelihood of being effective, long-term feasibility
- Building **internal strategic planning capacity** and ability to use scenarios methodology is key in the long-term

Regional use of scenarios

- The CCAFS scenarios program has developed socio-economic and climate scenarios as a tool for strategic planning with decision-makers in East and West Africa, South and Southeast Asia, the Andes and Central America, which have been quantified through IMPACT/GLOBIOM and linked to the SSPs/RCPs.
- The Cambodian Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries finalized a Climate Change Action Plan in 2014, that featured scenario-guided climate smart agriculture investments, and capacity building on scenario-guided planning.
- In Vietnam, investment proposals facilitated by FAO have been developed and tested against down-scaled scenarios.
- In Ghana, a process focusing on bridging gaps between policy levels, using multi-level scenarios, has been conducted. Scenario-guided policy processes are underway in Honduras, Peru and Uganda.

Bangladesh workshop and beyond: objectives

- The CCAFS Scenarios Team started supporting the General Economics Division (GED) of the Planning Commission with scenario guided strategic planning for the 7th Five Year Plan (FYP) from August, 2014
- The first step was a **two-day workshop** to develop impact pathways for the **7th Five Year Plan** in the context of socio-economic and climate scenarios
- Explored the **robustness and flexibility** of these ideas across a range of different futures and explored future **drivers of change**

Scenario-guided strategic planning for the 7th Five Year Plan

- What is the **scope of key issues** for the 7th 5 year plan and beyond?
- ADAPTED LIST IN CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS
- What challenges do different **possible futures** offer for Bangladesh?
- DOWNSCALED SCENARIOS FOR BGD
- What actions are possible to achieve **policy goals** in each of these future worlds for the 5 year plan and beyond? – DEVELOPING IMPACT PATHWAYS
- How **robust** are the impact pathways? – TESTING ACROSS SCENARIOS
- How can the impact pathways be made **more robust, flexible**? – REVISED PATHWAYS BASED ON WORKSHOP OUTPUTS

The Scenarios

- Four scenarios were created for Bangladesh, adapted and re-named from the CCAFS South Asia scenario narratives and model results to describe a range of Bangladesh futures
- *Impact pathways to achieve key objectives and strengthen desirable drivers from the four scenarios where then discussed and planned.*
- These outputs were then integrated into the chapters of the 7th Five Year Plan (&FYP) by the GED, Planning Commission and the CCAFS Scenarios Team, University of Oxford

Systemic interventions

- Introducing resilience concepts in education, multi level policies on resilience for agriculture, infrastructure, etc.
- Development of resilience-based technical skills through improved technical training and education in multiple dimensions
- Strengthening local government and decentralization: build capacity, more information on what works on the ground; more attention to policy integration at all levels
- Develop multi dimensional M & E tools: Monitoring land use change, creating micro-climatic zone specific vulnerability assessment

Scenarios from the adaptation perspective

- Helps address the question: adaptation to what?
- Integrate multiple interacting stressors: need to focus on variables together
- Timeframes play a role in determining successful adaptation
- Context examined at multiple levels
- Helps generate adaptation pathways
- (Helfgott, 2011)

Climate-resilient Bangladesh

Combined socio-economic and climate scenarios can help decision-makers develop better national and regional policies, investments and institutional structures that are more resilient to climate change.

Scenarios foster strong on-going partnership of national governments with interdisciplinary research and integration across multiple levels which is essential for planning a climate resilient Bangladesh.

The message

Using scenarios to test policies and plans allows us to explore and prepare for the challenges and opportunities we might face as we try to get from our present to the desired future and thus integrate effective impact pathways for a climate resilient Bangladesh

Questions?

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