



# Bangladesh Country Investment Plan for Environment, Forestry and Climate Change (2016-2021)

Investment planning and mobilization for forestry and climate change

*A cross-sectoral investment framework is needed to ensure the mobilization and delivery of effective, coordinated, sustainable and country-driven investment programs in environmental protection, sustainable forest management and climate change adaptation and mitigation. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is supporting capacities of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) to better target and prioritize investment in the environment sector of Bangladesh.*

## Context

Bangladesh is on track to become a middle-income country by 2021, a key stated national policy objective. The economy is transforming from one based primarily on agriculture to a mix of light industry (such as ready-made garments), services and in some cases, heavy industry. Remittances are also a source of foreign exchange. The growth in gross domestic product has remained over 6 percent per year for the past few years. However, this rapid economic development, with growing population density, increasing natural shocks and calamities, as well as climate change impacts have resulted in substantial amount of natural resources degradation and environmental pollution.

Various national ministries/agencies are implementing programs/projects in addressing the challenges. However, a number of challenges remain, including: (a) inadequate interagency coordination in project identification and implementation, (b) weak linkages between policy/plans and projects, (c) very limited results monitoring and (d) uncertain financing. These issues present major obstacles in proper management of environmental challenges. To address these challenges, FAO has supported the MoEFCC to prepare a Country Investment Plan for Environment, Forestry and Climate Change (EFCC CIP).



Community consultation on Country Investment Plan for Environment, Forestry and Climate Change.

## Objectives

- To develop a 5-year (2016-2021) roadmap and strategic framework that provides a whole of government action plan on environment, forestry and climate change issues.
- To identify and assemble prioritized investment areas linked to measurable results and to be implemented by various national ministries and agencies.
- To facilitate coherence and coordination of projects that are cross-sectoral in nature.
- To estimate the financing needs to be provided by Government and its development partners.
- To measure the overall impact of investments through an annual monitoring process.
- To set up the institutional mechanisms to permit the monitoring of investments and assess their adequacy and effectiveness.



## Process

- **Review of policies and legislation:** A team of experts reviewed more than 200 documents, including policies, plans, strategies, laws, studies and scientific literature. The review helped identify existing trends, opportunities, challenges and potential investments in the EFCC sector.
- **Compile data on sectoral trends:** Data were collected to demonstrate trends in different EFCC sectors. The data compilation was needed for the development of the CIP document, particularly the results framework.
- **Conduct stakeholders consultation:** A broad cross-section of stakeholders was consulted involving representatives of governmental, non-governmental organizations, private sector and other development partners. Stakeholders were consulted individually, in multi-stakeholder settings including workshops at the national, divisional and district level and in local community meetings.

## Results

- Over 2,000 people participated in the consultation process, which took place in Dhaka and other parts of the country in 2015 and 2016.
- In total, 14 coherent and coordinated investment programmes under four pillars have been identified by the EFCC CIP and total estimated amount is 11.7 billion USD.
- About 64 officials from 40 government ministries/agencies have been involved in the CIP monitoring process as members of four technical teams, making the process cross-disciplinary and participatory.
- Result framework has been developed with 232 indicators. Financing framework with assessment of financing needs, computation of existing investments and estimation of financing gap has been conducted.
- The Annual Development Program 2016-2017 has been analyzed to identify the type and geographic location of existing forestry investments supported by either the GoB or development partners. These maps can be superimposed with priority areas to better identify priority locations.
- The following forestry investment priorities have been identified:
  - o Social forestry, reforestation, afforestation, coastal greenbelt development, landscape restoration, and agroforestry
  - o Improve forest monitoring (to include both biophysical and socioeconomic aspects)
  - o Develop small and medium-sized forest enterprises and value chains for socioeconomic benefits
  - o Improve security of land tenure, stakeholder awareness and capacity.
- The EFCC CIP has been endorsed by the National Environment Committee and presently being implemented by the MoEFCC.
- High level urge to all the relevant stakeholder ministries and agencies to utilize the EFCC CIP in their strategic decision to have a result-oriented environment in the country.
- The development of the EFCC CIP is a steadfast commitment and dedication in ensuring a healthy living for the people of Bangladesh.

## Selected references

1. GOB 2011. Bangladesh Country Investment Plan: A road map towards investment in agriculture, food security and nutrition. Updated Version June 2011). Ministry of Food and Disaster Management, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. 153 pp.
2. GOB 2017. Bangladesh Country Investment Plan for Environment, Forestry and Climate Change (2016-2021). Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. 211 pp.
3. Shaheduzzaman, M. 2013. Situation Analysis and Capacity Needs Assessment in the Ministry of Environment and Forests and its Agencies. Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. 337 pp.

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