

Impact of Climate Change on Child Rights in Climate Vulnerable Communities of Bangladesh

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Abstract: Climate change presents a severe and escalating threat to the rights and well-being of children in Bangladesh, particularly within communities most vulnerable to environmental disruptions. This research report delves deeply into how climate change exacerbates issues such as displacement, food insecurity, child labor, education, health issue, and abuse, thereby undermining the fundamental rights of children. By adopting a comprehensive approach, this study illuminates the multifaceted impacts of climate change on children's rights, drawing extensively on the perspectives and experiences of the affected children themselves. The research utilizes a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative data to establish the scope and scale of the issues with qualitative insights to capture the lived experiences of children. Through surveys, interviews, and focus group discussions, the study collects detailed accounts from children and their families, providing a nuanced understanding of how climate-induced challenges disrupt their lives. The quantitative aspect involves statistical analysis of data from various regions to highlight trends and correlations, while the qualitative component enriches these findings with personal narratives and testimonials. Key findings from the study reveal significant policy gaps that leave children unprotected and vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. The lack of robust child-centered policies and inadequate implementation of existing measures are identified as critical issues. The study underscores the necessity for a multifaceted policy response that integrates child protection with climate resilience strategies. To address these gaps, the research proposes several measures. Enhancing community resilience through education and capacity-building initiatives is paramount, ensuring that children and their families can better cope with climate impacts. Investments in clean energy are also crucial, reducing the environmental footprint and mitigating further climate change. Additionally, targeted efforts to reduce emissions at both national and local levels are essential to prevent exacerbating the current situation. The study's findings stress the urgent need for child-centered policies that prioritize the health, education, and safety of children in climate-vulnerable communities. By implementing these recommendations, it is possible to create a more supportive environment that safeguards children's rights and promotes their overall well-being and development. This research calls for immediate action to address the intersecting challenges of climate change and child rights, highlighting that the protection of vulnerable children must be at the forefront of climate policy and action.

keywords: Climate Change, Child Rights, Vulnerability, Displacement and Education, Policy Gaps and Resilience

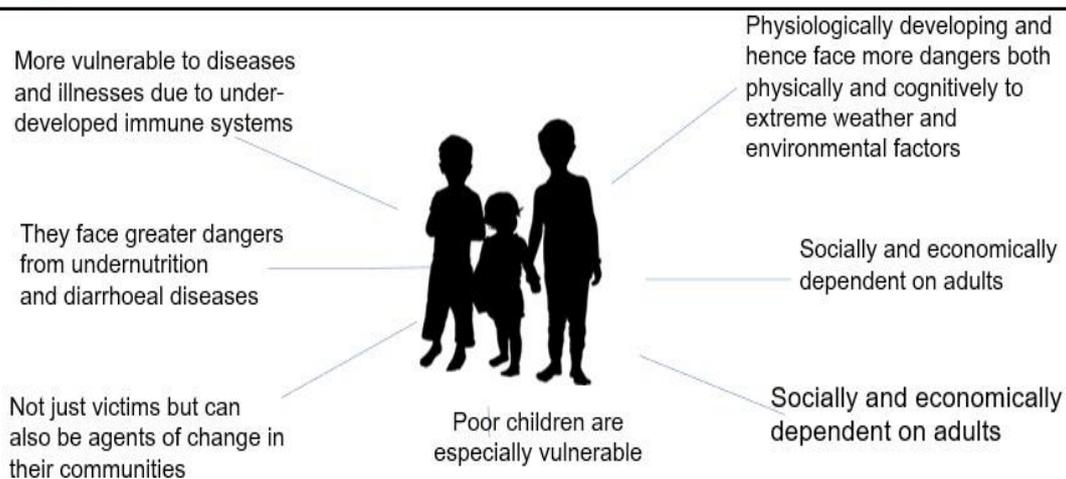
1. INTRODUCTION

Background of the Research Report:

Bangladesh, due to its geographical location and socio-economic conditions, is exceptionally vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Adverse effects such as sea level rise, floods, storms, and river erosion severely impact children's rights, including their health, education, and protection. Approximately one-third of Bangladeshi children, around 20 million, suffer from severe weather events and environmental shocks induced by climate change. Many of these children end up in urban slums, facing the risks of

child labor, exploitation, and limited educational opportunities. Displacement is one of the most significant effects of climate change on children's rights in Bangladesh. Given the country's geographic exposure, children are disproportionately more vulnerable to climate change impacts. Bangladesh is recognized as the most vulnerable country in the world for children concerning climate change, with 41% of its population being children under 18 years old (UNICEF, 2016) [1]. Despite this vulnerability, Bangladesh has gained international recognition for implementing notable regulations intended to manage disaster risks (UNICEF, 2016) [1]. Climate change is a global issue that requires collective action from governments, businesses, and individuals to mitigate its impacts. Unfavorable climate policies can exacerbate poverty, health issues, and access to basic services. Therefore, policymakers must consider both environmental and child rights when creating solutions to mitigate the effects of climate change. (Change, 2007) [2] (IPCC — Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) This research report aims to analyze vulnerabilities and identify the detrimental impacts of climate change on children's lives. It seeks to highlight the potential roles for government, law enforcement, and community involvement in formulating policies for inclusive and sustainable development that respect children's rights and mitigate the effects of climate change.

Figure 1. Why are children affected by Climate Change (adopted from ActionAid)



Goals and Objectives of the Research Report:

Goal: To preserve and protect children's rights in the face of climate change, providing guidance for policy and decision-making in Bangladesh.

Objectives:

- Mitigate the impacts of climate change on children's rights and well-being in Bangladesh.
- Ensure that children can enjoy their human rights in a safe and sustainable environment.
- Promote the protection of children's rights by reducing environmental and greenhouse gas emission risks.
- Facilitate children's meaningful participation in climate change decision-making processes.
- Secure children's access to quality education, healthcare, and other essential services.

Review of Literature:

Climate change presents an unprecedented global challenge, profoundly affecting children's rights across multiple domains including health, education, and living standards. Its disruptive impact extends to fundamental services and resources, resulting in heightened rates of malnutrition, illness, and mortality among children, while exacerbating poverty and inequality, thus rendering them more susceptible to harm (Committee & Framework, 2022) [3]. Furthermore, climate change exerts indirect effects on child rights, particularly through displacement and migration. Climate-induced disasters frequently displace families and communities, disrupting children's access to vital services such as education and social support systems, thereby escalating the risks of child labor and exploitation.

Additionally, climate-driven migration poses a severe threat, increasing the likelihood of child trafficking, exploitation, and abuse (Committee & Framework, 2022; [3] The Impact of Climate Displacement on the Right to Education, n.d.). Safeguarding child rights and fostering a safer, more equitable world necessitates addressing the impacts of climate change with urgency (Pandurics, 2019) [4]. The multifaceted peril posed by climate change to child rights includes malnutrition, illness, mortality, resource scarcity, displacement, and migration, all of which imperil their well-being and heighten vulnerabilities to exploitation and abuse. This underscores the urgent need for policy interventions (Frameworks, 2023) [5]. Effectively mitigating the threat of climate change to child rights demands coordinated action, including the integration of child rights considerations into climate policies, meaningful engagement of children in decision-making processes and initiatives, and substantial investments in sustainable development to mitigate emissions and associated impacts. These efforts aim to enhance children's resilience to climate change while ensuring that their rights and needs remain central (October 2022, 2022; Release October et al., 2022) [6]. Addressing root causes such as greenhouse gas emissions, poverty, and inequality necessitates a comprehensive approach. The literature underscores the imperative of policy actions to safeguard children's rights and diminish their vulnerability, with a steadfast focus on sustainable development and resilient infrastructure (Plush et al., 2021) [7]. This literature review serves as the foundational framework for comprehending the intersection of climate change and child rights, drawing upon recent research findings and methodological insights. By synthesizing existing knowledge and insights, it lays the groundwork for the current research endeavor, guiding the formulation of hypotheses and informing the research methodology.

Research Gap and Importance of Closing the Gap:

The literature review highlights the broad and multifaceted impacts of climate change on children's rights, including health, education, displacement, and vulnerability to exploitation. However, there is a notable gap in the specific examination of these impacts within the context of vulnerable communities in Bangladesh. While global and regional studies provide a general understanding, they often lack the granularity needed to address the unique socio-economic, cultural, and environmental conditions that characterize vulnerable communities in Bangladesh.

Identified Research Gap:

Context-Specific Analysis:

Existing literature predominantly offers a global or broad regional perspective on the impacts of climate change on child rights. There is a lack of context-specific studies focusing on how these global trends manifest in the unique environmental and socio-economic landscapes of vulnerable communities in Bangladesh.

Detailed Impact Assessment:

Comprehensive and localized assessments of the specific ways climate change affects children's health, education, and overall well-being in Bangladesh's vulnerable communities are scarce. Detailed data and insights into the direct and indirect pathways through which climate change exacerbates vulnerabilities are missing.

Child-Centric Policy Interventions:

There is insufficient research on effective policy interventions tailored to protect children's rights in the context of climate change within these communities. The literature lacks focused discussions on the implementation and efficacy of child-centric policies and initiatives in Bangladesh.

Importance of Closing the Gap:

Informed Policy Making:

Understanding the specific impacts of climate change on child rights in vulnerable communities of Bangladesh is crucial for developing targeted, effective policies. Closing this gap will enable policymakers to design interventions that are tailored to the needs and conditions of these communities, thereby enhancing their effectiveness and sustainability.

Enhanced Resilience and Adaptation:

By identifying the particular vulnerabilities and resilience factors of children in these communities, stakeholders can better support adaptation strategies that protect and promote children's rights. This includes improving access to education, healthcare, and social services that are resilient to climate

impacts.

Holistic Protection of Child Rights:

Addressing this gap will ensure that the multifaceted nature of child rights is comprehensively protected against the adverse effects of climate change. This involves safeguarding not only the immediate needs but also the long-term development and well-being of children in these communities.

Community-Specific Solutions:

Research focused on vulnerable communities in Bangladesh will provide insights into community-specific challenges and strengths, facilitating the development of localized solutions that are culturally and contextually appropriate.

Contribution to Global Knowledge:

Filling this research gap will contribute to the global understanding of climate change impacts on child rights, offering a case study that can inform similar efforts in other vulnerable regions worldwide.

In summary, the identified research gap highlights the need for a focused study on the impact of climate change on child rights in vulnerable communities of Bangladesh. Addressing this gap is essential for crafting effective policies, enhancing community resilience, and ensuring the holistic protection of children's rights against the backdrop of climate change.

Research Questions/Objectives/Hypotheses: Research Questions:

1. How does climate change affect the rights and well-being of children in vulnerable communities in Bangladesh?
2. What are the main policy gaps in addressing the impacts of climate change on children's rights?
3. How can child-centered policies and initiatives mitigate the adverse effects of climate change on children's rights?

Hypotheses:

Climate change significantly disrupts children's access to education, health services, and protection in climate-vulnerable communities in Bangladesh.

Hypothesis 1a: The increasing frequency and severity of climate-related events, such as floods, cyclones, and rising sea levels, lead to higher rates of school absenteeism and dropout among children in vulnerable communities.

Rationale: Climate-related events damage school infrastructure, disrupt transportation, and force families into displacement, all of which hinder children's ability to attend school regularly.

Hypothesis 1b: Climate-induced displacement and infrastructure damage significantly reduce children's access to essential healthcare services in vulnerable communities.

Rationale: Displacement and damage to healthcare facilities impede regular health check-ups, vaccinations, and emergency medical care, leading to deteriorating health outcomes for children.

Hypothesis 1c: Climate-related disruptions increase the risk of child exploitation and abuse in vulnerable communities.

Rationale: Displacement and socio-economic instability resulting from climate change exacerbate vulnerabilities, making children more susceptible to trafficking, labor exploitation, and other forms of abuse.

2. Existing policies are insufficient to adequately address the impacts of climate change on children's rights.

Hypothesis 2a: Current policy frameworks in Bangladesh lack specific provisions to protect children's rights to education, health, and safety during and after climate-related events.

Rationale: Policies often fail to incorporate child-specific needs and vulnerabilities, resulting in inadequate resource allocation and support systems during climate crises.

Hypothesis 2b: Inadequate policy responses lead to insufficient long-term planning and resource allocation for mitigating the impacts of climate change on children.

Rationale: The absence of comprehensive strategies and dedicated funding limits the effectiveness of interventions aimed at safeguarding children's rights in the face of climate change.

3. Implementing child-centered climate policies can effectively mitigate the adverse effects of climate change on children's rights.

Hypothesis 3a: Child-centered climate policies that prioritize resilient school infrastructure and continuous education access significantly reduce school absenteeism and dropout rates during climate disruptions.

Rationale: Ensuring that schools are built to withstand climate impacts and providing alternative education options (e.g., online learning) during disruptions can help maintain educational continuity.

Hypothesis 3b: Child-centered healthcare initiatives that ensure continuous access to medical services and address climate-related health challenges improve children's health outcomes in vulnerable communities.

Rationale: Strengthening healthcare infrastructure, mobile clinics, and telemedicine services can help mitigate the health impacts of climate-induced disruptions.

Hypothesis 3c: Robust child protection mechanisms embedded in climate policies can significantly reduce the risk of exploitation and abuse among displaced and vulnerable children.

Rationale: Establishing community-based child protection committees, emergency response teams, and safe spaces for children can enhance safety and reduce exploitation risks during climate emergencies.

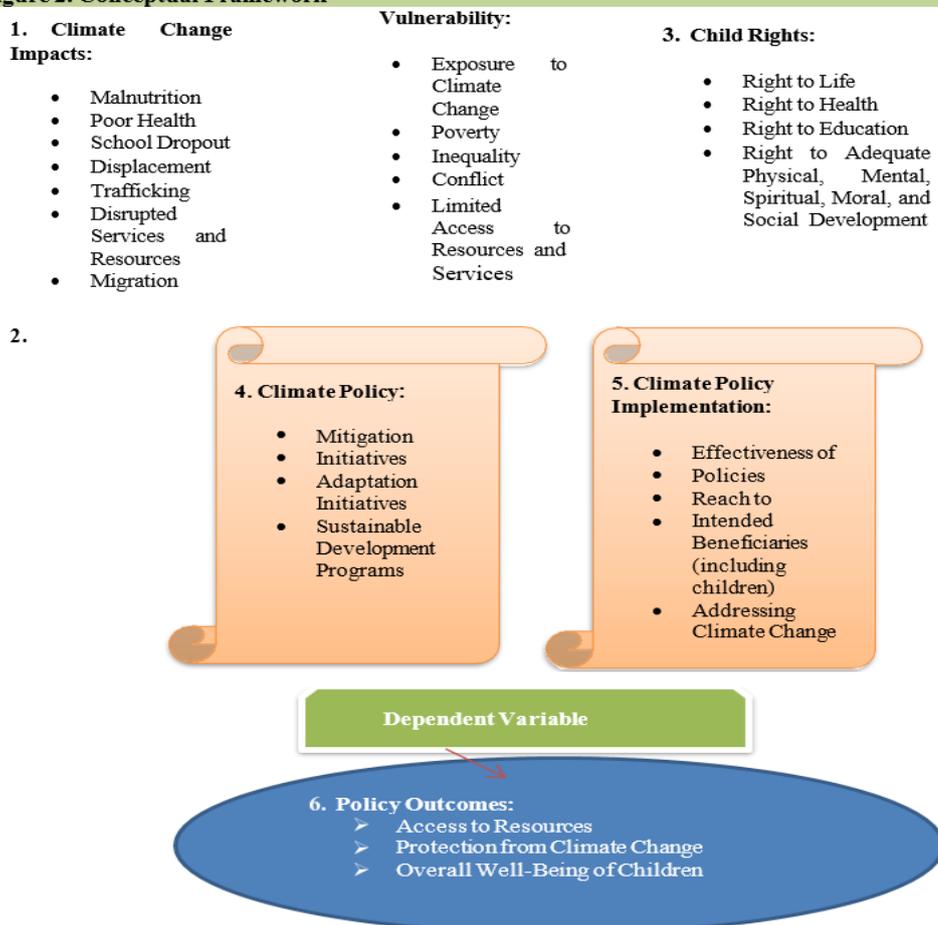
These hypotheses are designed to guide the research in investigating the multifaceted impacts of climate change on child rights in vulnerable communities in Bangladesh. They aim to identify the specific challenges faced, evaluate the adequacy of existing policies, and propose actionable solutions that prioritize the well-being and rights of children in the context of climate change.

Conceptual Framework:

Conceptual Framework:

The conceptual framework for this study encompasses variables crucial in understanding the complex dynamics of the impact of climate change on child rights in vulnerable communities of Bangladesh. These variables include climate change impacts, vulnerability, child rights, climate policy, climate policy implementation, and policy outcomes. They serve as foundational pillars in formulating effective policy responses to safeguard children's rights amidst climate change challenges.

Figure 2. Conceptual Framework



This conceptual framework illustrates how various factors related to climate change and vulnerability influence child rights and how effective climate policy and its implementation can lead to improved policy outcomes for children in vulnerable communities.

2. METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

Research Design:

The study employs a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative and qualitative research methods to provide a comprehensive understanding of the impacts of climate change on children's rights in Bangladesh. This approach allows for triangulation of data, enhancing the validity and reliability of the findings.

Sample Size and Sampling Technique:

The target group of the project consisted of 60,000 (sixty thousand) dwellers of the selected slums and low-income settlement areas, and all people of those wards who are indirectly benefitting from the project.

Using the Yamane (1967:886) formula for sample size determination for finite population

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2} = \frac{60000}{1 + 60000(0.05)^2} = 397.35$$

For study convenience the sample was set to 400. Where n is the sample size, N is the population = 60000, and e is the level of precision = 0.05. Sample households were selected from the project location using a systematic random sampling technique.

Data Collection Methods:

Questionnaire Survey:

A semi-structured questionnaire was administered to collect primary data from children in grades 9 to 12 in the most vulnerable areas. The survey aimed to capture children's experiences and perspectives on the impacts of climate change on their rights and well-being.

Focus Group Discussions (FGDs):

Eight FGDs were conducted with members of community-based Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to explore community attitudes towards climate change, the effectiveness of project implementations, and the challenges faced.

Key Informant Interviews (KIIs):

Nine KIIs were conducted with subject matter experts and stakeholders to gain deeper insights into policy options and their effectiveness in addressing climate change impacts on children's rights.

Data Management and Analysis:

Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential

statistical techniques, while qualitative data were analyzed using content analysis. The findings from both data sets were integrated to provide a comprehensive understanding of the issue.

No	Area Name	Quantity
1	Shyamnagar Upazila, Satkhira	50
2	Gobindaganj Upazila, Gaibandha	30
3	Ghoraghat Upazila, Dinajpur	20
4	Bishwamvarpur Upazila, Sunamganj	50
5	Kalapara Upazila, Patuakhali	50
6	Phulbari Upazila, Kurigram	50
7	Thanchi Upazila, Bandarban	25
8	Bakalia, Chattogram	25

Total	300
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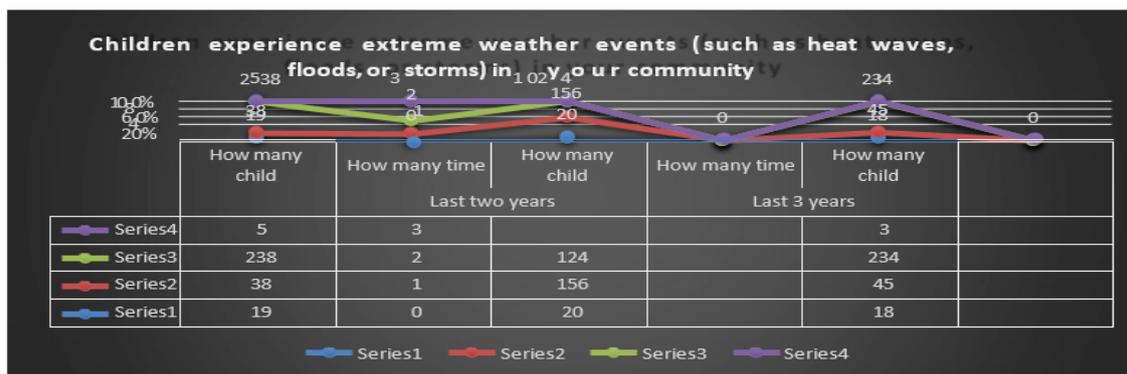


Figure 3. Intensity of impacts on different sectors due to climate change of children life, (sample survey)



Figure 4. Climate Change's Devastating Impact on Children's Education (sample survey)

The data gathered suggests a significant impact of climate change on the health of children in climate vulnerable communities of Bangladesh. Out of the 300 respondents surveyed, 280 children reported experiencing health problems related to climate change, while only 20 children indicated no such issues. This stark contrast highlights the widespread nature of health issues caused by climate change in these communities. Such findings underscore the urgent need for effective interventions and policies to mitigate the health impacts of climate change on children in Bangladesh.

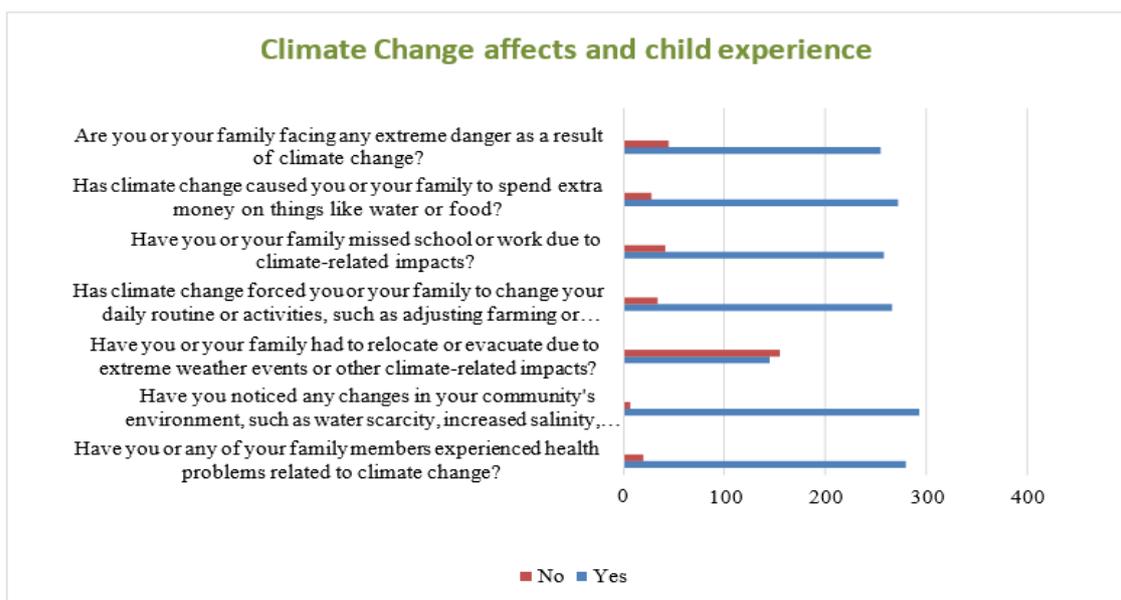


Figure 5. Intensity of impacts on child life in Bangladesh in different sectors due to climate change (sample survey)

Based on the data provided in the figure no 4, the impact of climate change on child rights in climate vulnerable communities of Bangladesh is evident. Here's a discussion based on the given statistics:

1. **Health Impacts:** A significant portion (280 out of 300) of respondents or their family members have experienced health problems related to climate change. This suggests that climate change is directly affecting the well-being of individuals, including children, in these vulnerable communities. Health issues can range from respiratory problems due to air pollution to waterborne diseases from contaminated water sources.
2. **Environmental Changes:** Nearly all respondents (293 out of 300) have noticed environmental changes such as water scarcity, rising salinity, frequent flooding, and erosion in their communities. These changes not only disrupt daily life but also pose long-term challenges for livelihoods and access to basic resources like clean water and arable land.
3. **Forced Relocation:** A considerable portion (145 out of 300) of respondents or their families have been forced to relocate or evacuate due to extreme weather or climate-related events. This indicates the displacement and disruption of communities, which can have profound socio-economic and psychological impacts, especially on children.
4. **Changes in Family Routines:** A majority (266 out of 300) of respondents note changes in their family's routines, such as farming or fishing practices, due to climate change. These changes can affect income, food security, and traditional ways of life, further exacerbating vulnerabilities in already marginalized communities.
5. ****Impact on Education and Employment**:** A significant number (258 out of 300) report missing school or work due to climate-related impacts. This highlights how climate change not only affects physical health but also educational opportunities and economic stability, particularly for children and their families who rely on daily wages.
6. **Financial Burden:** A majority (272 out of 300) of respondents or their families are spending extra money on essentials like water or food due to climate change. This places an additional financial burden on already struggling households, potentially pushing them further into poverty and limiting their ability to invest in education and healthcare.
7. **Extreme Danger:** A large portion (255 out of 300) of respondents or their families are facing extreme danger as a result of climate change. This includes risks such as increased exposure to natural disasters, food insecurity, and displacement, highlighting the urgent need for adaptation and mitigation measures to protect vulnerable communities.

The data paints a clear picture of the profound impact of climate change on child rights in Bangladesh's vulnerable communities. These findings underscore the importance of addressing climate change not only as an environmental issue but also as a human rights issue, with a focus on protecting the most vulnerable populations, particularly children, from its adverse effects.

3. FINDINGS

Survey Results:

The survey revealed that climate change significantly impacts children's rights in Bangladesh. Out of 300 respondents, 278 children reported being affected by climate change. Key findings include:

Impact of Child Rights	Statistical Overview of the Impact of Climate Change on Families and Children
Health Problems	93.33% of children are experiencing health problems related to climate change.
Environmental Changes	97.67% of respondents have experienced significant environmental changes and crises.
Forced Relocation	48.33% of families have been forced to relocate or evacuate due to extreme weather events.
Changes in Routines	88.67% of families have altered their daily routines in response to climate change.
Missed School or Work	86% of respondents have missed school or work due to climate-related impacts.
Extra Expenses	90.67% of families are incurring additional expenses as a result of climate change.
Extreme Danger	85% of children are facing extreme danger due to climate change.

The research conducted on the "Impact of Climate Change on Child Rights in Climate Vulnerable Communities of Bangladesh" reveals alarming statistics regarding the effects of climate change on children and families in the surveyed community:

Health Problems Related to Climate Change: An overwhelming majority of children (93.33%) reported experiencing health problems attributed to climate change, indicating a pressing concern for public health in these vulnerable communities.

Experience in Environmental Changes and Crisis: Nearly all respondents (97.67%) acknowledged experiencing environmental changes and crises, highlighting the pervasive impact of climate change on the community's livelihoods and well-being.

Forced Relocation or Evacuation due to Extreme Weather: Almost half of the surveyed population (48.33%) reported being compelled to evacuate or relocate due to extreme weather events, underscoring the vulnerability of these communities to climate-related disasters.

Changes in Family's Routines due to Climate Change: A significant proportion (88.67%) of families reported altering their daily routines in response to climate change, suggesting disruptions to traditional livelihood activities and household dynamics.

Missed School or Work due to Climate Impacts: A substantial number (86%) of respondents reported missing school or work due to climate-related impacts, indicating potential disruptions to education and economic stability in the community.

Extra Expenses due to Climate Change: The majority (90.67%) of families reported incurring additional expenses as a result of climate change, imposing financial burdens and exacerbating existing socio-economic challenges.

Children Facing Extreme Danger due to Climate Change: A significant portion (85%) of children reported facing extreme danger attributable to climate change, highlighting the urgent need for protective measures to safeguard their well-being.

These findings underscore the urgent need for comprehensive climate resilience and adaptation measures in vulnerable communities like those surveyed in Bangladesh. Addressing the multifaceted impacts of climate change on children's rights requires coordinated efforts at the local, national, and international levels to mitigate risks, build resilience, and ensure the well-being of present and future generations.

4. FGDS AND KIIS

Findings of FGDS and KIIs:

The focus group discussions (FGDs) and key informant interviews (KIIs) conducted as part of this research project revealed several critical themes concerning the impact of climate change on child rights in climate-vulnerable communities of Bangladesh:

- Lack of Proper Planning and Implementation of Climate Policies:** Community members and stakeholders identified a significant gap between policy formulation and implementation regarding climate change mitigation and adaptation. Despite the existence of policies, there is often a lack of effective planning and execution at the grassroots level, leading to inadequate protection for vulnerable populations, including children.
- Insufficient Political Commitment:** Participants expressed concerns about the insufficient political commitment to addressing the root causes of climate change. There is a perceived lack of urgency and prioritization of climate action at the governmental level, hindering efforts to mitigate the impacts of climate change on children's rights effectively.
- Limited Inclusion of Children in Decision-Making Processes:** Another notable finding is the minimal involvement of children in decision-making processes related to climate policies. Despite being the most affected stakeholders, children are often excluded from discussions and decisions concerning climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies, undermining their agency and perspectives.
- Budget Allocation for Child Education and Health:** Participants emphasized the importance of allocating adequate budgetary resources for child education and health in climate-vulnerable communities of Bangladesh. Investing in education and healthcare infrastructure is crucial for ensuring children's well-being and resilience in the face of climate-related challenges.
- Addressing Climate-Friendly Agriculture:** Stakeholders highlighted the need to promote

climate-friendly agricultural practices in vulnerable communities. Sustainable agricultural methods can enhance food security, livelihoods, and resilience to climate change impacts, benefiting both children and their families.

These findings underscore the significance of addressing systemic challenges in climate governance and prioritizing the needs and rights of children in climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies. By incorporating these insights into policy formulation and implementation, policymakers can better safeguard the well-being and rights of children in climate-vulnerable communities of Bangladesh.

5. DISCUSSION

Impact of Climate Change on Child Rights

This study focuses on finding the severe and multifaceted impacts of climate change on the rights of children in climate-vulnerable communities in Bangladesh. The research reveals significant disruptions across various aspects of children's lives, including health, education, livelihoods, and safety. These disruptions highlight the urgent need for targeted interventions and policy responses that are specifically tailored to address the unique vulnerabilities of children in these communities. One of the most critical insights from the study is the identification of substantial policy gaps in addressing the impacts of climate change on children's rights. Current policies often fail to adopt a child-centered approach, neglecting to integrate the specific needs and vulnerabilities of children into climate adaptation and mitigation strategies. This oversight results in inadequate protection and support for children, exacerbating their vulnerability to climate-induced challenges. To bridge these policy gaps, it is essential to develop and implement policies that prioritize children's health, education, and protection in the context of climate change. This involves investing in resilient infrastructure that can withstand climate impacts, enhancing healthcare and education services to ensure continuous access, and establishing robust child protection mechanisms. Furthermore, children's participation in climate-related decision-making processes should be encouraged and facilitated, ensuring that their voices are heard and their needs are addressed. The study's recommendations offer a comprehensive framework for addressing the identified challenges. Enhancing community resilience through education and capacity-building initiatives can equip children and families with the skills and knowledge needed to cope with climate impacts. Investing in clean energy solutions can help mitigate further climate change while reducing the environmental footprint of vulnerable communities. Developing child-centered policies is crucial for safeguarding children's rights. Such policies should focus on creating resilient infrastructure, ensuring continuous healthcare access, and providing robust child protection mechanisms. Additionally, economic support through financial aid and social protection programs can help alleviate the additional expenses incurred due to climate change, reducing the economic burden on affected families. Disaster preparedness plans must be strengthened to include safe and sustainable relocation options, preventing displacement and ensuring the safety of children during climate-induced disasters. Promoting sustainable agriculture practices and the use of improved seeds can enhance food security, while raising awareness about environmental pollution and minimizing plastic usage can contribute to a healthier environment. Establishing reliable sources of clean water and implementing initiatives to reduce salinity by creating freshwater sources are vital for ensuring access to safe drinking water. Decreasing greenhouse gas emissions, boosting green investment, and promoting solar energy, along with organizing climate awareness campaigns, can help mitigate the long-term impacts of climate change. Planting trees to enhance air quality and conducting awareness campaigns to combat child marriage can further protect children's rights and well-being. Providing free education and educational resources in disaster-prone areas, along with educating children about the climate crisis and fostering social responsibility, can empower the younger generation to take an active role in climate action. Climate-friendly agriculture refers to practices and techniques within the agricultural sector that aim to mitigate climate change, adapt to its impacts, and minimize greenhouse gas emissions while promoting sustainable food production. These practices recognize the significant role agriculture plays in both contributing to and being affected by climate change. The impact of climate change on child rights in vulnerable communities of Bangladesh is severe and multifaceted. Addressing these impacts requires urgent, coordinated action at local, national, and international levels. By prioritizing child-centered policies and ensuring the active participation of children in decision-making processes, it is possible to safeguard their rights and promote their well-being amidst the challenges posed by climate change. Immediate action is essential to create a supportive environment that protects the most vulnerable and promotes sustainable development for future generations.

6. KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

Implementing education and capacity-building initiatives is crucial for helping children and families better cope with the impacts of climate change. These efforts can empower communities with the knowledge and skills needed to adapt to changing environmental conditions. Simultaneously, reducing environmental footprints and mitigating further climate change through sustainable energy solutions is essential to prevent worsening climate scenarios. Developing and enforcing policies that prioritize the needs and rights of children is also critical. This includes creating resilient infrastructure, ensuring continuous healthcare access, and establishing robust child protection mechanisms. Additionally, providing financial support and social protection programs can help alleviate the extra expenses families incur due to climate change. Strengthening disaster management plans is necessary to include safe and sustainable relocation options, thereby preventing displacement and its associated hardships. Promoting sustainable agriculture practices and the use of improved seeds can enhance food security and reduce environmental degradation. Raising awareness about environmental pollution and minimizing plastic usage are steps towards a healthier environment. Ensuring reliable sources of clean water is vital to mitigate health risks associated with climate change. Decreasing greenhouse gas emissions, boosting green investment, and promoting solar energy, along with organizing climate awareness campaigns, can significantly reduce the adverse effects of climate change. Initiatives to reduce salinity by creating freshwater sources are also important, particularly in coastal regions affected by seawater intrusion. Planting trees to enhance air quality and mitigate climate impacts is a simple yet effective measure. Enhancing awareness campaigns and initiatives to combat child marriage, which can be exacerbated by climate change impacts, is necessary to protect vulnerable children. Providing free education and educational resources in disaster-prone areas ensures that children continue to have access to education despite climate-related challenges. Educating children about the climate crisis and fostering social responsibility empowers them as agents of change in addressing climate impacts. Investing in climate-resilient infrastructure and sustainable development practices can provide long-term solutions to climate challenges. Strengthening awareness campaigns on the impacts of climate change on children's rights is essential to garner broader support for protective measures. Enhancing collaboration between the government, private sector, and communities can lead to more effective and comprehensive strategies to address the multifaceted challenges posed by climate change.

7. CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, the research report on the "Impact of Climate Change on Child Rights in Climate Vulnerable Communities of Bangladesh" sheds light on the profound and multifaceted effects of climate change on the well-being and rights of children in Bangladesh. Through a comprehensive mixed-methods approach, the study uncovers significant policy gaps and challenges faced by children in climate-vulnerable communities, urging for immediate action to address these issues. The findings highlight the urgent need for child-centered policies and interventions that prioritize the health, education, and protection of children in the face of climate change. From the significant health impacts to forced relocations and disruptions in education and livelihoods, it is evident that climate change exacerbates existing vulnerabilities and poses grave risks to children's rights. To address these challenges, the research proposes a series of recommendations aimed at enhancing community resilience, reducing environmental footprints, and implementing policies that prioritize children's needs and rights. From promoting sustainable energy solutions to strengthening disaster management plans and investing in climate-resilient infrastructure, these recommendations offer a holistic approach to mitigating the adverse effects of climate change on children's lives. Furthermore, empowering children through education, participation in decision-making processes, and fostering social responsibility is crucial in building resilient communities that can effectively adapt to climate change challenges.

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