

Title: **Climate Change and Fisheries in Bangladesh: Impacts and Adaptations in The Context of Marginal and Poor Fishers**

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Abstract: This paper looks at the possible consequences and adaptations to Climate Change for fish and people, particularly the marginal and poor fishers in Bangladesh. Fish from Bangladesh's vast inland waters are vital to millions of marginal and poor people, but catches and species diversity have been declining due to the problems, like climatic vulnerabilities, habitat degradations, draught, water-logging, etc. Bangladesh is likely to be one of the most vulnerable countries in the World to the climatic vulnerabilities. Climate change is the most serious and biggest challenge for marginal and poor fishers in the rural areas, mainly in the disaster-prone haor and river basin, monsoon-prone and coastal belt of the country-side. It is observed that during the monsoon, salt-water intrusion from the Bay of Bengal affects the agriculture and fisheries within the 100 kilometers of the country-side. This paper gives an account on the potential impacts of climate change on the fisheries and people, and the feasible adaptations, which have been tried and succeeded by the affected marginal and poor fishers of the country over the last decade. Bangladesh is proven to be a resilient on these and the lessons learnt and best practices should be disseminated to other developing countries, which are also affected due to climate change. Both quantitative data and qualitative findings from the secondary sources are used to draw conclusions and recommendations for future directions. Adaptations to climate change for the marginal and poor fishers of the vulnerable areas have been given much attention in the paper.

Keywords: Bangladesh, Impacts, Adaptations, Climate change, Fisheries, Haor and river-basin, Coastal-belt, Salt-intrusion, Disaster-prone, Habitat degradations, Bay of Bengal.