

## Short course on

# ***Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change***

**Dhaka, 22-28 July 2010**



*Is climate change going to bring more and worse disasters? If it does, what needs to be done to adapt to it?*

Climate change is expected to increase the intensity (and possibly frequency) of severe weather events. Many organisations are working hard on disaster risk reduction for existing natural hazards – how will they respond to the greatly increased challenge of worsening hazards?

But there is more: how should adaptation to worsening disasters connect with organisations that are dealing with existing problems of development, poverty-reduction, gender equity, environmental degradation challenging people and organisations? For several decades, agencies that have dealt with development problems have often worked in isolation from those dealing with disasters. Does climate change offer the chance to bring these two areas together, so that adaptation deals with both sets of issues side-by-side?

This course, the fourth in a series of short courses at the new **International Centre for Climate Change and Development**, will be relevant to staff of organisations (both government as well as non-government) that deal with disasters or development issues. It will increase their knowledge and understanding of how to deal with disasters and climate change, and how to link disaster risk reduction with development in the process of adaptation.

ICCCAD courses are run on a highly participatory basis, with a variety of activities that enable learning and sharing of knowledge between participants. A goal-oriented process is used to ensure that participants leave with a clear “work plan” that shows how they will use the knowledge from the course in their own job and to influence their organisation in the direction that will increase capacity for dealing with that set of problems. The course includes a short (normally two day) field visit to expose participants to relevant issues and actors in the context of Bangladesh.

ICCCAD is a new international centre that is focused on the connections between climate change and development. Based in Dhaka, Bangladesh, it delivers high quality short courses to staff from NGOs, universities, government departments and individuals. It is the first international centre to link



Villagers near Khulna, southwest Bangladesh, watching theatre group Sudipti perform a play about risks of cyclones. Photo Terry Cannon

ICCCAD is a partnership between International Institute for Environment and Development, Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies, and Independent University, Bangladesh



development and climate change issues operating in a developing country, and aims to build capacity of all organisations faced with the challenges of adaptation in the context of development.

## Course Facilitators

**Dr Saleemul Huq**, Director of ICCCAD and Senior Fellow, International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

**Terry Cannon**, Visiting Director of Studies, ICCCAD and Visiting Fellow in the Climate Change Group at IIED.

**Guest Lecturers.** We anticipate that as usual in ICCCAD courses there will be a number of highly relevant additional presentations by other experts.

**Saleem Huq** has expertise on the links between climate change and sustainable development, and particularly the perspective of developing countries. His experience includes work in Africa and South Asia, especially with the least developed countries, including research into vulnerability and adaptation to climate change in the least developed countries. His recent activities have included building negotiating capacity and supporting the engagement of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in UNFCCC and support for the Adaptation Fund Board. He has been Lead Author on Adaptation and Sustainable Development in the IPCC 3rd assessment report, and Lead Author of the chapter on Adaptation and Mitigation in the 4th assessment report. He is currently engaged in work on the 5th report.

**Terry Cannon** is visiting lecturer on disaster risk reduction at several universities around the world, and is also currently a Visiting Senior Lecturer at King's College London (teaching on the MA degree in Disasters, Adaptation and Development). He is co-author of one of the most influential books on disasters and vulnerability (*At Risk*, 2nd edition 2004, co-written with Blaikie, Davis and Wisner). He is an experienced trainer and facilitator on climate change adaptation and on disasters, and has worked as an advisor for several NGOs and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), where he helped develop the VCA (Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment) methodology. His current work includes a large UNDP project on institutional capacity building in Vietnam for DRR and climate change adaptation.

### Course is suitable for:

Staff of international organisations, government departments, NGOs and other organisations that work on disaster preparedness (especially at community level), disaster risk reduction, climate change and adaptation, development, poverty-reduction, NAPAs, gender equity.

### Topics will include:

- *Climate science – what are the risks of changes to extreme events – frequency and intensity?*
- *Vulnerability and natural hazards – using a vulnerability analysis approach to disaster risk reduction*
- *Dealing with tropical cyclones (typhoons, hurricanes), floods, flash floods.*
- *Assessing gender impacts of disasters under conditions of climate change, and integration of gender issues into DRR*
- *What is community-based disaster Management (CBDM), and what are its benefits and limits?*
- *How is adaptation to extreme events linked up with problems of development, livelihoods and climate change trends that affect everyday life?*



Community in Costa Rica threatened by landslides in heavy rains. Photo Terry Cannon

**Course information:**

The course will take place over seven days, and will be based at a hotel in Dhaka, Bangladesh. During the field course participants will take part in a two-day field visit (weather permitting) to observe relevant disaster risk reduction activities and meet the agencies involved.

**Fees:**

1. International organisation: 3,000 USD
2. Independent international candidate: 2,500 USD
3. Bangladeshi: 2,000 USD (payable in Taka)

Categories 2 and 3 eligible for part or full bursary for deserving candidates.

The course fee includes all training, course materials, accommodation, field visit, meals and airport transfers. It does not include travel to Dhaka, visa costs, hotel incidentals, any local costs incurred by participants for their private needs, or travel insurance.

**Applications:** If you are interested to apply, please send an email to the Assistant Director of ICCCAD, Ms Ina Islam. She will send you the application form and any further details available: [ifci2002@yahoo.com](mailto:ifci2002@yahoo.com)

**Future courses at ICCCAD**

Short courses are staffed by experts in the topic for each course. From 2011 (subject to approval by the UGC) it will also offer an MSc in Climate Change and Development awarded by IUB.

ICCCAD organises short courses for specialist groups that are tailor-made for their needs, and also open access courses on various topics. These can also be held outside Bangladesh – and our third course (for African academics on curriculum development on climate change) is being held in Kenya.

In the coming year, we are planning courses for government officials, urban planners (on urban adaptation to climate change), action research on community-based adaptation, media personnel, and UNFCCC negotiators.

If you would like to be informed of courses, please contact Ina Islam at the email below. Please note that specialist courses may be by invitation only.

**ICCCAD staff and information**

**Dr Saleemul Huq**, Director [Saleemul.huq@iied.org](mailto:Saleemul.huq@iied.org)

*Saleem will be based in Dhaka from Autumn 2010, and is responsible for the policy and advocacy work of ICCCAD, and a key member of the teaching team.*

**Ms Ina F. Islam**, Assistant Director, [ifislam@iub.edu.bd](mailto:ifislam@iub.edu.bd), [ifci2002@yahoo.com](mailto:ifci2002@yahoo.com)

*Ina is the full-time administrator for ICCCAD. Please contact her if you wish to be added to the ICCCAD mailing list, and for details of specific courses.*

**Terry Cannon**, Visiting Director of Studies, [terry.cannon@iied.org](mailto:terry.cannon@iied.org)

*Terry is based in London, where he works with the Climate Change Group of the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) as a Visiting Fellow. He will visit ICCCAD in Dhaka to help deliver relevant courses, and develop courses with interested organisations.*

**Location and visiting address:** ICCCAD is hosted by IUB, and will be based in its new campus at Bashundhara, north Dhaka, from October 2010: **Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB)** Aftabuddin Road, Plot-16, Block-B, Bashundhara, Dhaka 1212

**Website:** <http://centers.iub.edu.bd/icccad/>