

Shotlist for EU Bangladesh Climate Change and Food Aid Interventions

GCCA Conference May 2010

00'10 to 01'00

General shots of farmers and farm day workers in paddy fields in southern Bangladesh (Kachua, Bagerhat district) in light rain, details of farmers tending rice shoots, father and daughter watching by roadside. Beneficiaries of EU funded program to intensify crop production by helping 2, in some cases 3, rice crops per year instead of the usual 1 crop.

01'00 to 01'33

Shots of a woman slicing chillies with her son watching in the rain in southern Bangladesh (Pirojpur). Victim of Cyclone Sidr and Cyclone Aila which hit Bangladesh in 2007 and 2009 respectively. She lost her home and small number of livestock (a cow, goats, chicken and ducks) in the most recent cyclone disaster.

01'33 to 02'27

Details of rain falling on foliage and atmospheric shots of mother with her children in her home watching the weather.

02'27 to 02'51 Clip of Beauty Aktar, describing the effects of the cyclone on her "The animals were all killed, our cow, goats, ducks and chickens. And then the house fell apart and we all ran to the brick building with the children. Even just to get there was a hard task. We couldn't take any possessions, not even bedclothes. It was terrifying."

02'51 to 02'59

Shots of local NGO adviser instructing farmers on how to manage their hybrid rice crops (used as part of the rice intensification programme) in the middle of a paddy field, including Abdur Rahman, who farms a small patch of 15 decimals (1 decimal = 440 sq. feet), who's later interviewed. Every year, with just one crop to harvest, he borrows 5,000 to 7,000 Bangladeshi Taka (= roughly 60 to 80 Euro) to survive, paying back the debt by day labour and some crops.

02'59 to 03'09 Clip of Abdur Rahman, describing the financial relief a second annual crop would bring to him and his family.

"The loan I am forced to take out now won't be necessary in the future if I get an extra crop. Then I won't have to pay debts to other people and I'll be able to feed myself and my family."

03'09 to 03'56

Details of modest home of Abdur Rahman, showing threadbare hut, chickens and geese, Abdur Rahman's wife preparing a fire for cooking. Because of extreme poverty, they can afford to eat only one meal per day.

03'56 to 04'49

Shots at Burirdanga village, Bagerhat district, in southern Bangladesh, where an EU-funded project, carried out by the World Food Programme, has raised the embankment of a river, protecting the may fish and fresh water ponds that people depend on for their day to day survival. The embankment prevents the encroachment of salt water in the fresh water. Salt water works its way upstream because over-silted rivers have a weak water flow. Increasing salination from sea water from the Bay of Bengal is a key issue for Bangladeshis and a demonstration of the increasing effects of climate change.

Shots show a group of women returning from collecting water. Before the embankment they sometimes had to walk up to 10 to 12 kilometers to collect water, exposing them to daily health and safety risks. Also shows children swimming, and two WFP (UN's World Food Programme) field officers testing water from the river, spitting out because of high salt content.

04'49 to 05'06 Clip of Kabita Roy, pictured earlier carrying water.

"We won't have any destruction of our ponds in the future. Then our crops will be beautiful. Normally when we plant trees here they don't grow. From now on they will the trees will grow properly. That's what we wanted all along. That will be good for us."

05'06 to 06'18

Shots in Burirdanga village, Bagerhat district, showing Kolpuna Roy at her shrimp pond. Part of an income generating programme for poor women funded by the EU to give women economic opportunity.

06'18 to 06'37 Clip Kolpuna Roy

"I have a child of 2 and a half. Even though this pond is small, and even though we lease it, with it we can grow our farming here and get a bigger one. Then we can reduce the suffering of our child which we have had all the time."

06'37 to 07'24

Shots of a communal embankment raising program, managed by the World Food Programme and funded by the EU. The embankment at Joykha, Sonailtola, southern Bangladesh, stretches 25 kilometers in total, employing ultra poor villagers, mostly women, on a cash for work program and giving them 3 months work. The embankment is designed to check monsoon floods and stop the encroachment of saline waters in ponds along the river.

07'24 to 09'00

Shots showing the Sundarbans mangrove swamps on the southern coast of Bangladesh. The site is a World Heritage site, is home to 300-400 Royal Bengal tigers, indigenous crocodiles and unique species of flora and fauna. Its banks are being constantly eroded by rising sea levels, cyclones and storms. Shots show a group of NGO and EU workers in a boat hugging the river bank, disembarking and wandering through the lush forest, guards and deep sunset.

09'00 to 09'20 Clip Towheeda Akhtar, WFP field officer

"Severe storm and cyclone day by day it is increasing and due to this region, especially for the last cyclones Sidr and Aila, Sundarbans area a lot of birds and animals died."

09'20 to 10'20

Shots showing a brick factory on the outskirts of Dhaka. The factory is one of 10,000 in Bangladesh producing millions of bricks every year. These are used for a construction boom and also because the country has few stocks of rock and gravel. Although overall, Bangladesh's CO2 emission levels are tiny, these plants pump out millions of tonnes of CO2 emissions every year.

10'20 to 10'35

Shots showing EU Commissioner for Climate Action, Connie Hedegaard, touring a brick factory using modern brick firing technologies, reducing its CO2 emissions and increasing production efficiency at the same time.

10'35 to 10'50 Clip EU Commissioner for Climate Action, Connie Hedegaard on general Bangladeshi climate change issues

"If the melting accelerates for instances on the Himalyana plateau, they will get still ore waters coming down here and that is a very big risk for Bangladesh. What would people do in the modern world? Well of course they will try to go on the move.

10'50 to 11'14 Clip EU Commissioner for Climate Action, Connie Hedegaard on general Climate Change issues of funding developing countries' efforts to adapt to climate change.

"It is absolutely crucial that the developed countries as a group understand that the pledge given at Copenhagen, delivering 30 billion US dollars this year, next year and 2012, that pledge must be delivered upon. It is absolutely a question of the credibility of the developed countries as a group whether this money will actually be delivered."

11'14 to 12'13

Shots from Rangpur province, in northern Bangladesh, prone to heavy monsoon flooding, showing general images from villages, describing the day to day activities and habits of local people, walking along a man made protraction embankment, children, makeshift ferry crossing a water logged area, two women harvesting jute leaves

12'13 to 13'51

Shots from Rangpur area in northern Bangladesh. So-called "Char" area on the banks of the Jamuna river (Brahmaputra river in India), showing wide swathe of water, high because of flash floods from spring rainfall higher upstream in India. Shows the village of xxxx, women repairing part of embankment destroyed in heavy rains the previous evening, details of the village, shots of a group meeting of elders and senior villagers, discussing the threat to their livelihoods and their homes. Many of the villagers are regularly forced from their homes by the erosion or swamping of their Chars, some forced to hop from one to another multiple times.

13'51 to 14'13 Clip Musamat Guhinoor Begum

"Due to changes in the pattern of rain our country, and our village, are facing a lot of problems. We used to harvest irri (= popular rice type) in June, but last year the water came in early and inundated everything."

14'13 to 14'27 Clip Mohamad Fulmia, who was forced to move 20 times since huge floods in 1988.

"Due to the fact that the river is losing its depth (ed note, this is caused by excessive siltation of the river) we are seeing destruction all around the year. This was not the case previously. Previously there was a time to farm. Now it's always changing."

14'27 to 14'54 Clip Arham Uddin Siddiqi, Rural Development adviser, EU delegation Dhaka

"If you look back to ten years, the way the erosion is going on due to the untimely effect of this water flow to these rivers, and the number of people who are being displaced it is more than 100,000 every year. If it goes on and on and it becomes very severe, then I am afraid people will have to migrate not only through inland migration, but they might have no other option but to go outside the country."

14'54 to 15'15 Clip EU Commissioner for Climate Action, Connie Hedegaard on the threat of external migration

"If they can see that where I am now there is no sustainable living for me and my family, then of course there is a risk that people will start to move, and that is why what is happening here is not just in the interests of the Bangladeshi, but it's also in our interests to try to cope with the challenges while it's still time."

15'15 to 15'51

General shots of Dhaka, Bangladeshi capital, showing traffic, details of people, posters etc

15'51 to 16'11

Shots of a brick retaining wall in Haor District in north east Bangladesh. The big issue for villagers here is the sheer level of inundation...sometimes up to 6/7 metres during monsoon. Haor is a catchment area for many rivers flowing from the north in India to sea in the Bay of Bengal. The water, coupled to storms, erodes the land people have, forcing them to migrate to the mainland. EU funded project on one village in Haor provides simple effective solution to encroaching waters.

16'11 to 16'43

General shots of Dhaka

16'43 to 16'58

More shots of the Haor area.

16'58 to 17'24 Clip Bangladeshi Minister for Environment and Forests, Hasan Mahmud, expressing the need for support in measures which help developing countries adapt to climate change (as opposed to the huge emphasis placed in the west on climate change mitigation measures).

"For most vulnerable countries and for developing countries it is important, adaptation. Even tomorrow if the total globe goes to zero emission, but still the global temperature will keep on increasing for the next couple of years. So what to do then? Adaptation is very essential, and adaptation is very essential for us. So I think more attention is required for adaptation."

17'24 to end

Shots from the signing ceremony of a joint declaration on climate change between the EU and Bangladesh, Cambodia and the Maldives, at the end of the Asia Regional Conference of the Global Climate Change Alliance, showing EU Commissioner for Climate Action, Connie Hedegaard, Bangladeshi Minister for

Environment and Forests, Hasan Mahmud, and Maldivan Minister for Housing
Transport and Environment, Mohamed Aslam.