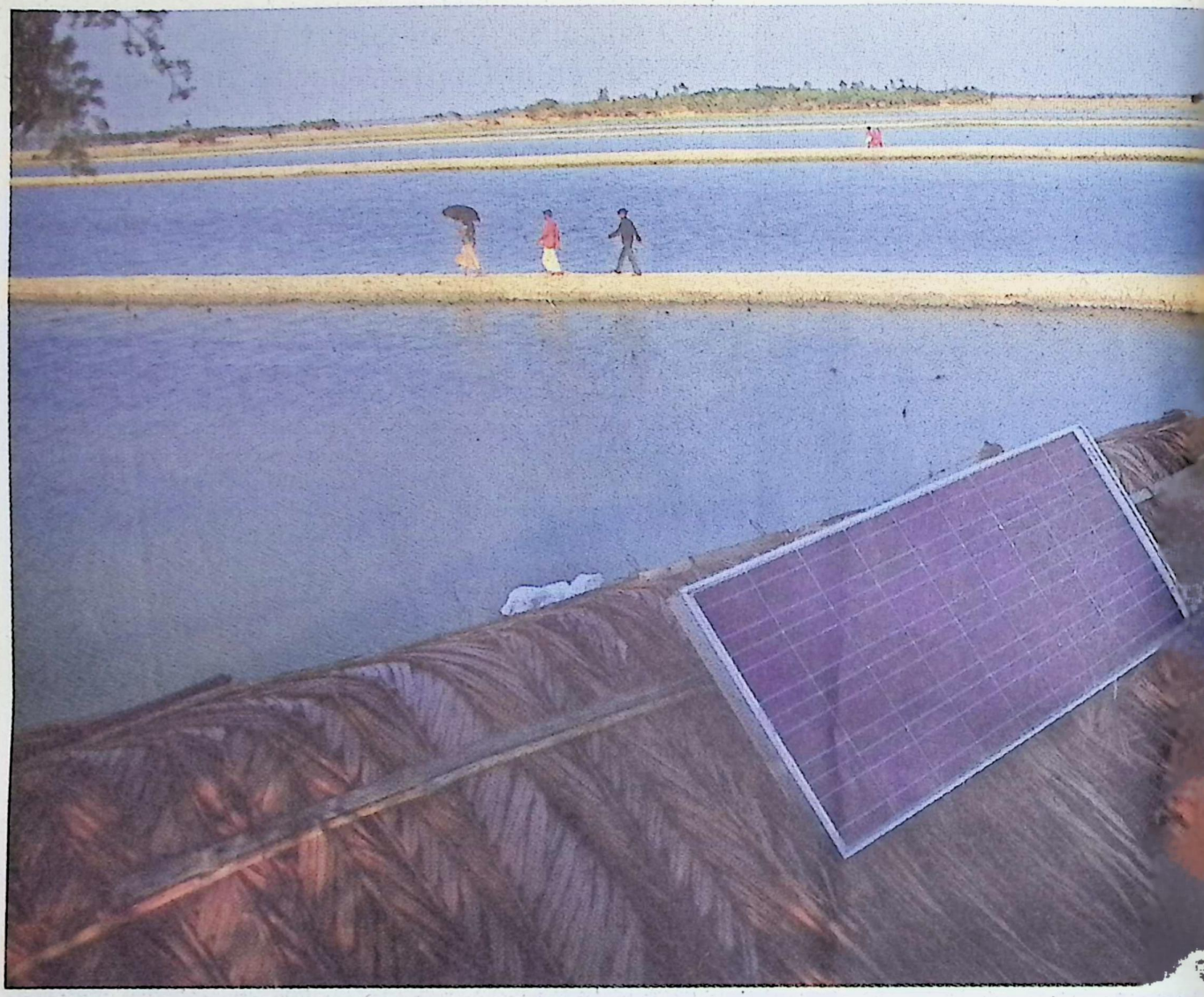


assessing both the non-renewable and renewable options, from both global and local perspectives -- to lead the transition through action (programs into practice).

The multi-faceted energy crisis will have to be understood and addressed from multiple perspectives and skills. Bridges have to be built between policy makers and practitioners, economists and environmentalists, academics and field workers, specialists and generalists, educators and activists, industrialists and ecologists, program planners and implementers, problem researchers and problem solvers.

Some bridges exist, but only as exceptions. We must engage in a dialogue and collaborate -- within the country and with the world -- in a shared vision and action. It's good for Bangladesh, and it's good for the world.

It may seem like a daunting -- even revolutionary -- task. But insisting on following a path which has led Bangladesh, and the world, to the crisis is not a solution -- it is suicidal. On the other hand, the revolutionary scope of renewable energy technologies offers us another choice, a hope, and a one-time opportunity to pave a path towards a solution.

Bangladesh is capable of achieving the impossible. Against all odds and formidable opposition, the Liberation War proved it. An essential meaning and realisation of that blood-drenched liberation is now to be found in Bangladesh's claim, commitment and achievement of her energy independence and sustainability.

The task amounts to nothing less than a national task with the utmost urgency -- and a call to action -- now!