

Bangladesh's key role in combatting climate change



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As we enter the third year of this decade, we have only seven more years until 2030 to tackle the major global problems of climate change and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Unfortunately, the world is not on track to meet the targets it has set for itself, so we need to work doubly hard to achieve them in less than seven years as failure to do so will mean significant losses and damages for people in all countries, both poor as well as rich.

The year 2022 has proven to be a very important milestone year as far as climate change is concerned, as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in its 6th Assessment Report made it very clear that human induced climate change due to over one-degree centigrade rise in global temperature is now unequivocally causing adverse impacts which, in turn, are causing losses and damages in all countries. Thus, humanity has now entered the era of "loss and damage" from human induced climate change and no country is adequately prepared to address the consequences.

The good news is that at the COP27 of the UNFCCC held in November 2022 in Egypt, all countries agreed unanimously to create a new fund to address loss and damage from human induced climate change.

However, the good news is that at the 27th Conference of Parties (COP27) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in November 2022 in Egypt, all countries agreed unanimously to create a new fund to address loss and damage from



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human induced climate change. This was a major victory for the vulnerable developing countries, including Bangladesh, who had been advocating for this for many years without success. The principal reason why all the

countries, including the rich ones who have opposed the idea up to now, was the stark reality of visible impacts around the world such as the devastating floods in Pakistan last year. This was thus a major positive outcome

of global diplomacy, although much remains to be agreed on in terms of setting up the fund, getting it up and running, which we hope to achieve at COP28 in November 2023 in Dubai.

At the national level in Bangladesh,

we also had several major achievements in terms of planning as well as action. On the mitigation front, we adopted the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) and on the adaptation front, the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

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