

WEBINAR

Capacity Building of Grassroots CSOs to Access Climate Adaptation Finance

6th June 2020 (Saturday), 11AM to 1PM, Bengali

India ranks amongst the topmost countries with the highest vulnerability to physical impacts of climate change which would be starkly visible in the agriculture and water resources sectors.

Climate change is mostly locally experienced and has to be dealt with local, customised approaches. Local grassroots organisations (CSOs/NGOs) play an important role in mainstreaming the climate change adaptation since they can best comprehend interests and challenges of the local communities and connect them to government institutions, thus enhancing their coping capacities and preparedness for climate related risks. The ability and capacity of CSOs to access finance is thus crucial for transforming noble global intentions into action for the most vulnerable communities in India.

This webinar is an attempt to build capacities of CSOs to connect to climate finance resources and enhance their impact by collaborating with like-minded organisations. Our speakers will be talking about resources specific to CSOs in the Bengal region.



Mr. Anshuman Das
Development Activist



Mr. Ardhendu Sekhar
Chatterjee
President, Development
Research Communication and
Services Centre



Dr. Sugata Hazra
Professor, Jadavpur
University



Mr. Soumen Biswas
Development Professional



Mr. Samrat Mukherjee
Representative NABARD

About Development Alternatives
Development Alternatives (DA), a premier social enterprise set up in 1982, is a research and action organisation that delivers sustainable development outcomes focused at green economic development, social equity and environmental management. DA innovates eco-solutions, implements programmes and influences policy change aimed at economic development, poverty reduction and environment regeneration.





Dialogue and Collaboration for Building Capacities of Grassroots CSOs to Access Climate Adaptation Finance

Development Alternatives, Development Research Communication and Services Centre (DRCS), and the Adaptation Fund-NGO Network jointly organised a webinar on ‘Capacity building of grassroots CSOs to access climate adaptation finance’ on 6 June 2020. The webinar was specifically for CSOs working on climate change adaptation in the Bengal region of India and Bangladesh. About 50 people participated in the webinar. The main language of conduct was Bengali.

Five eminent speakers from related spheres of work shared their perspectives on climate finance and ways to effectively leverage it for local development. Samrat Mukherjee from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development- NABARD, Kolkata discussed NABARD's role in the climate adaptation finance space in India. Ardhendu Chatterjee shared his experience of developing locally suited, resilient, replicable, and cost-effective adaptation models focusing on livelihood and nutrition security, disaster risk reduction, and agriculture. Dr Sugata Hazra, Professor, Jadavpur University shared his learning from finding overlaps between modern scientific methods, such as satellite imagery and GIS, and traditional wisdom to strengthen adaptation work. Anshuman Das shared the perspective of funding agencies. Soumen Biswas shared tips and guidelines for developing quality proposals to access international funding.

A major highlight of this virtual discussion was the emergence of the possibility of collaboratively conducting a detailed and rigorous proposal development workshop for local CSOs.