National Institute of Advanced Studies

The Green Ribbon

*A Monthly Monitor of the **NIAS C3SP initiative** on Climate Change, Civil Society and Peace*

NIAS-STIR Programme

global politics

Discourses | Trajectories | Forecasts

From Coastal Communities to the Himalayas

Case Studies, Stories, Dialogues and Documentation on Climate Change & Civil Society



The Green Ribbon # 05, August 2026

NIAS Monthly Monitor on Climate Change, Civil Society & Peace supported by GPPAC South Asia and CLIMPSE

National Institute of
Advanced Studies
NIAS

About NIAS

National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) was conceived and founded in 1988 by JRD Tata and Dr Raja Ramanna with an objective to nurture a broad base of scholars, managers and leaders who would respond to the complex challenges that face contemporary India and global society, with insight, sensitivity, confidence and dedication.

About NIAS Climate Change, Civil Society & Peace (C3SP) Initiative

The C3SP Monitor is a research initiative at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) dedicated to building a comprehensive database on civic responses to climate change across South Asia. The monitor focuses on four core objectives: tracking regional media coverage of climate events; documenting localized individual and collective adaptation strategies; developing empirical case studies; and curating an open-access resource base.

Beyond data collection, the NIAS C3SP serves as an active capacity-building platform. Aligning with the founding mission of NIAS to nurture the next generation of researchers, the initiative invests in young scholars - equipping them to conduct rigorous fieldwork, capture community narratives, and analyse the intersection of climate resilience, civil society, and peacebuilding.

The Green Ribbon is designed as a NIAS Monthly Monitor, addressing the above two.

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About GPPAC South Asia & the CLIMPSE

The monitor is supported by GPPAC South Asia's Climate, Peace, and Security (CLIMPSE) research initiative. The CLIMPSE initiative aims to strengthen local peacebuilders' capacity by deepening awareness of the links between climate, peace, and security, and strengthening practical skills, local peacebuilders are better equipped to develop and implement climate-sensitive peacebuilding policies, practices, and infrastructures in their communities. It also aims to amplify local knowledge and strengthening their capacity. The CLIMPSE initiative is co-funded by the European Union.

The Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) is a global network led by civil society organizations (CSOs) dedicated to preventing violent conflict and promoting more peaceful societies. The network comprises 15 regional networks, each with their own priorities and agendas tailored to their specific environment. The GPPAC South Asia network comprises a dynamic group of members from diverse backgrounds, all working towards conflict prevention and peace promotion in the region. It maintains a mixed membership that includes CSOs, policy research institutes, activists, mediators, and academics.

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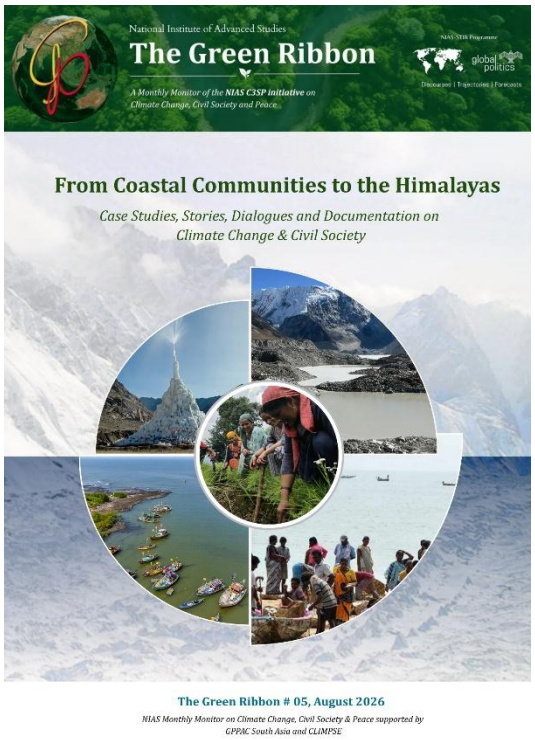
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Building Peace

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Monthly Monitor of the NIAS C3SP (Climate Change, Civil Society & Peace) Initiative

#05, August 2026



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Climate Change, Civil Society & Peace in South Asia
Padmashree Anandhan



Source: Resolve Support Media / ISAF Regional Command, Ahadul Karim Khan / Dhaka Tribune, Ali Raza / AP, UNDP, Mongabay, TBS News, Orissa Post

Editor's Note

Continuing our Dialogues and Strengthening our Capacity

This is the fifth issue of *The Green Ribbon*. As in the previous issue, the present edition continues our efforts to bring together dialogues, field experiences, case studies, reflections and documentation on climate change and civil society.

As part of our focus on "***Case Studies***," this issue carries a field-based study from the eastern coast of Tamil Nadu. Such studies are important to *The Green Ribbon*, as they allow us to move from broad discussions on climate change to the ways in which communities experience, negotiate and respond to climate-related challenges.

In July 2026, we continued our focus on "***Dialogues***," "***Youth Connect***," and "***Capacity Building***." This issue contains a report on a field study conducted by *NIAS Grass Roots* - a network of young scholars working at the intersection of climate change and civil society. It records their engagement with *Parikrma Oxygen* in Bengaluru, highlighting its inspiring work in nature-based education, ecological restoration, and local climate action.

During July 2026, young scholars worked on developing a database of civil society initiatives addressing climate change across India. Their efforts are beginning to create a wider map of civil society responses, while also providing a foundation for future research and field engagement. Their contributions are featured under "***Stories***."

Alongside the Dialogues and Case Studies, this issue presents focused analytical commentaries in our "*Explainers*" section.

Our "***Documentation***" continues to build the database by tracking major regional developments in climate policy and environmental action.

Looking ahead, our next issue will highlight the outcomes of the *Grass Roots* youth workshop held in August 2026. Our planned workshop on climate change and gender had to be rescheduled; we are set to host it in September 2026. In the meantime, our team is developing several targeted case studies on gender dynamics and climate resilience. We also intend to undertake another field study through the Grass Roots team. This will allow us to continue expanding the "*Dialogue*" component of *The Green Ribbon* and, more importantly, strengthen the connection between research, field experience and youth engagement.

The Green Ribbon continues to unfold, deepening our engagement with civil society, empowering youth, and building capacity. Thank you for being part of the journey!

D Suba Chandran
Editor, *The Green Ribbon*.

Case Studies

Strengthening Climate Resilience among Fisherwomen in Kanyakumari:

How the Organisation for Community Development (OCD) is building climate resilient coastal communities in the district

Lekshmi MK



Source: Ocdindia.org

As part of the NIAS Climate Change, Civil Society and Peace (C3SP) initiative in collaboration with GPPAC South Asia, Lekshmi MK, Research Assistant at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bengaluru, met and spoke with ***S Daniboy Virgit****, Executive Secretary of* ***the Organisation for Community Development (OCD), Kanyakumari****. OCD has worked among the indigenous Mukkuvar fishing communities of Kanyakumari district, focusing on fisherwomen, livelihood security, environmental conservation, and community empowerment. Through its grassroots initiatives, the organisation has sought to strengthen the environmental resilience of coastal communities.*

Drawing from this interaction and OCD's work in coastal Kanyakumari, this note highlights how climate change affects livelihoods, gender relations, and the everyday survival of fishing communities. It also explores the role of women-led collective action, community-based adaptation, and ecosystem conservation in strengthening resilience as climate-related risks become increasingly frequent and severe.

The coastal villages of Kanyakumari district are among the most climate-vulnerable regions in southern India. Frequent coastal erosion, changing weather patterns, rough seas, and ecosystem degradation have increasingly affected the livelihoods of fishing communities. While the impacts of climate change are often discussed in terms of declining fish stocks and shoreline erosion, women experience these challenges differently. Women engaged in fish vending, fish processing, and other small-scale coastal occupations face income insecurity, increased household responsibilities, and limited access to decision-making processes. Despite their significant contribution to the coastal economy, their role in climate resilience often remains overlooked.

Recognising these challenges, the Organisation for Community Development (OCD), led by its Executive Secretary S Daniboy Virgit, has worked for several decades among the indigenous Mukkuvar fishing communities of Kanyakumari district. The organisation places women at the centre of its efforts to build sustainable livelihoods while strengthening the resilience of coastal ecosystems.

OCD adopted a community-based approach that integrated women's empowerment with environmental conservation. One of its key interventions was promoting climate-resilient household technologies, including rainwater harvesting systems, biogas plants, smokeless stoves, and solar cookers. These initiatives reduced dependence on conventional fuels while improving household health, reducing environmental stress, and strengthening the adaptive capacity of fishing families.

The organisation also prioritised estuarine and mangrove conservation. Nearly 100 hectares of estuarine ecosystems were protected through community participation, while mangrove plantations were established in vulnerable coastal areas. Importantly, women from fishing communities were appointed as caretakers

of these mangrove ecosystems, transforming them from beneficiaries into active environmental stewards.

OCD further strengthened women's economic resilience by organising thousands of fisherwomen into self-help groups and supporting the Fisherwomen Head Load Vendors Federation. Through microcredit, livelihood training, fish-processing skills, storage facilities, and leadership programmes, women gained greater financial independence and improved access to local markets. The initiatives helped strengthen both environmental conservation and women's livelihoods. Women's participation in mangrove conservation created a sense of community ownership over local ecosystems while simultaneously generating livelihood opportunities. The promotion of climate-friendly household technologies reduced environmental pressure and improved living conditions for coastal families.

The self-help groups enhanced women's financial security, reduced dependence on informal moneylenders, and increased their participation in local decision-making. By linking livelihood security with ecosystem conservation, OCD demonstrated that climate resilience could be strengthened through community participation rather than relying solely on infrastructure-based interventions. The most significant outcome was the recognition of women as climate actors rather than passive victims of climate change.



Source: Ocdindia.org

Despite their contribution to coastal economies, their labour often remains invisible in environmental and policy discussions. Virgit's efforts have consistently attempted to bring women's experiences into conversations about coastal development, environmental justice, and climate resilience.

However, several challenges remain. Coastal communities continue to face erosion, ecosystem degradation, and climate uncertainty. Women involved in traditional occupations often struggle with financial insecurity and limited institutional support. At the same time, ensuring that women's voices are represented in environmental decision-making remains a continuing challenge.

Reference

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About the author

Lekshmi MK is a Research Assistant at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bengaluru.

Stories

The Hands Restoring Bengaluru's Lakes

How environmentalist Harsha Tej is Rebuilding Nature in Bengaluru

Namrata L Ghanghatkar



Source: BlueDot Foundation

As part of the NIAS Climate Change, Civil Society and Peace (C3SP) initiative in collaboration with GPPAC South Asia, Namrata L Ghanghatkar, Research Intern at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bengaluru, explores the journey of ***Harsha Tej****, an environmentalist who moved from the corporate sector into lake rejuvenation and ecological restoration in Bengaluru. Drawing on media reports, Namrata at his work through Muddy Fingers and the* ***BlueDot Foundation****, and how his efforts to restore damaged lakes and mobilise communities are contributing to the city's ecological resilience.*

Harsha Tej is an environmentalist from Bengaluru and the founder of the initiatives Muddy Fingers and BlueDot Foundation, which focus on lake rejuvenation, afforestation and ecological restoration within the city. Before entering environmental conservation full time, Harsha worked in the corporate sector. However, watching Bengaluru slowly lose its lakes, green cover and biodiversity pushed him towards restoration work and community conservation. Coming from an agricultural background, he often speaks about always feeling connected to soil, water and nature from a young age. Over the last few years, he has shifted his focus entirely towards rebuilding Bengaluru's damaged ecosystems and creating long term environmental solutions for the city's growing water crisis.

Bengaluru was once known for its interconnected network of lakes that helped recharge groundwater and support biodiversity across the region. However, rapid urbanisation, encroachment and pollution have severely damaged many of these water bodies over the years. Climate change has further worsened these conditions through irregular rainfall patterns, rising temperatures and increasing water scarcity.

Through Muddy Fingers and BlueDot Foundation, Harsha Tej has worked on restoring several lakes and urban ecosystems across Bengaluru. One of the restoration projects led by his team includes Hunsmaranahalli Lake near Airport Road. He has also worked on restoring a neglected pond inside the CRPF campus in Yelahanka, which was transformed into a functioning three-acre lake ecosystem through desilting, catchment restoration and biodiversity regeneration.



Source: Harsha Tej

His restoration work includes increasing water holding capacity, planting native tree species around lake ecosystems and creating wetlands that naturally filter polluted water before it enters the lakes. Alongside restoration work, Harsha also organises plantation drives and community conservation programmes that encourage volunteers and local residents to participate in ecological restoration efforts.



Source: BlueDot Foundation

These restoration efforts have helped improve groundwater recharge, increase rainwater retention and restore biodiversity around damaged urban ecosystems. Rejuvenated lake systems have gradually started attracting birds, insects and other species back into these habitats. Increased green cover around restored lakes also helps reduce urban heat stress and improves ecological balance within the city.

Through volunteer participation and long-term restoration work, Harsha Tej's initiatives demonstrate how rebuilding urban ecosystems can help cities respond to growing climate and environmental challenges while reconnecting communities with nature.

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"From concrete jungle to water positive: Environmentalist Harsha Tej's mission to save Bengaluru's lakes," The New Indian Express, 10 June 2024

"Community initiative breathes fresh life into CRPF campus lake in Bengaluru," The Times of India, 21 March 2025

About the Author:

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Stories

Where the Water Returns:

How Gurunandan Rao is Reviving Bengaluru's Forgotten Water Bodies through 'HandsOn Foundation'

Namrata L Ghanghatkar



Source: HandsOn Foundation

As part of the NIAS Climate Change, Civil Society and Peace (C3SP) initiative in collaboration with GPPAC South Asia, Namrata L Ghanghatkar, Research Intern at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bengaluru, traces the work of ***Gurunandan Rao M*** *and his efforts to revive Bengaluru's neglected water bodies through the* ***Hands On Foundation****. Based on publicly available reports and accounts of his conservation initiatives, this note looks at how lake restoration, community participation and environmental awareness have come together to strengthen local ecosystems and address the city's growing water challenges.*

Gurunandan Rao M is a Bengaluru based environmentalist, lake conservationist and founder of Hands On Foundation, an organisation that focuses on lake restoration, environmental education and community driven conservation. Growing up in a rapidly urbanising city, Gurunandan witnessed many of Bengaluru's lakes gradually disappear under pollution, encroachment and neglect. Over the years, increasing water shortages, declining groundwater levels and the loss of natural ecosystems pushed him towards environmental work. What began as a concern for the city's disappearing water bodies eventually grew into a larger mission to restore lakes and encourage communities to take part in protecting local ecosystems.

Today, he is often referred to as a "water warrior" and has spent more than a decade working on lake conservation and sustainability initiatives across Bengaluru. Bengaluru was once known for its interconnected network of lakes that helped store rainwater, recharge groundwater and support biodiversity. However, rapid urban growth and poor waste management have severely damaged many of these ecosystems. Through Hands On Foundation, Gurunandan Rao has worked on restoring several neglected lakes and water bodies across the city.



Source: HandsOn Foundation

One of the major restoration projects led by his organisation is Muthurayanakunte Lake in Anekal Taluk, which had become filled with sewage, weeds and construction debris over the years. His team carried out desilting, deepening of the lake bed, strengthening of bunds and repairs to water channels to improve water retention and stormwater flow. He has also been involved in the restoration of B Channasandra Lake in Kasturinagar, where community volunteers and CSR partners worked together to remove waste, restore the lake ecosystem and improve its ecological functionality.

Alongside lake restoration, Gurunandan regularly organises clean up drives, plantation activities and environmental awareness programmes that encourage residents, volunteers and corporate groups to participate in conservation efforts. His work extends beyond lakes to include hill clean ups, biodiversity restoration and community stewardship programmes focused on long term environmental sustainability.

These restoration efforts have helped revive several damaged water bodies and improve their ability to store rainwater and recharge groundwater. Lakes that were once filled with waste and invasive vegetation have gradually been transformed into functioning freshwater ecosystems. Restored lakes such as Muthurayanakunte and B Channasandra have also strengthened biodiversity by creating healthier habitats for birds and other species. Through volunteer participation, community ownership and long-term maintenance efforts, Gurunandan Rao's work highlights how restoring urban water bodies can help cities respond to growing environmental and climate related challenges while rebuilding local ecological systems.

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Stories

Water Warriors of the Himalayas:

How the women of Salga village in Uttarakhand revived dying springs and restored water security

Priyanka Makhijani



Source: Behen Box

As part of the NIAS Climate Change, Civil Society and Peace (C3SP) initiative in collaboration with GPPAC South Asia, Priyanka Makhijani, a postgraduate student at the Department of Public Policy, School of Social Science, Ramaiah University, Bengaluru, documents the story of ***the women of Salga village in Uttarakhand****, who came together to revive their drying springs and restore water security. Drawing on media reports and publicly available accounts, the story traces how women from the village with support from the People's Science Institute (PSI) used local participation, hydrogeological knowledge, and simple water conservation measures to restore spring recharge zones. It highlights how community-led action helped address a growing water crisis in a Himalayan village increasingly affected by changing rainfall patterns, environmental degradation, and climate change.*

In the small Himalayan village of Salga in Uttarakhand, water was once a source of daily struggle every morning Shobha Devi used to wake up at 4 am and walk to a nearby spring carrying empty buckets. Long queues formed as women from neighbouring villages waited for their turn to collect the slow trickle of water. A task that should have taken minutes often consumes hours, leaving little time for household work, farming, and children. Like many villages across the Indian Himalayas, Salga was facing a growing water crisis. Erratic rainfall, land-use changes, and climate change had reduced groundwater recharge, causing natural springs to dry up.

Although the village received tap water connections under the Jal Jeevan Mission in 2021, the taps remained largely dry because the spring feeding them had weakened.

Shobha Devi and other members of Mahila Mandal Dal started to look for the solution. They played a vital role in conserving forest, water management and even were the first responders during disaster. The residents of the village Nirma Negi and Shobha Devi, they partnered with the people's Science Institute (PSI) to understand why their springs were disappearing.

With the help of hydrogeological assessments, they learned that changes in vegetation cover, road construction, and intense rainfall were preventing rainwater from replenishing underground aquifers.

With the help of this knowledge, the women began restoring the springs themselves. The recharge area for Devta Ka Pani extended about 50 meters upslope from the spring and covered around 1 hectare of land, although, the Chargad spring had a larger recharge zone of approximately 3 hectares.



Source: Behen Box

They carried spades, hoes, and sickles, they climbed the hills surrounding the village and dug trenches across the recharge zones. These trenches slowed rainwater runoff and allowed it to seep into the ground. They also planted grasses and vegetation to retain moisture and protect the soil. Once the work started, men joined in. together about 25 women and 50 men were working and they carved around 650 trenches, each were about 2 meter long, 1 meter wide and 1 meter deep within 5 days.

After the Chargad recharge area was treated, water started to flow through the taps. Every village residents-built tank for their household. Nirma said in the summer if the bucket takes longer to fill then they check the trenches to see what's wrong. They also plant more vegetation around the recharge zone to hold the moister.

Gudda Devi says that "We take care of the recharge area like it's our own. We clear weeds, clean the trenches when they get filled with mud and even fix small animal burrows near the spring.



Source: Behen Box

Reference:
Singh, V. (2025, August 24). The women who brought water back to a Himalayan village https://behanbox.com/2025/08/24/the-women-who-brought-water-back-to-a-himalayan-village/

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Stories

The Ice Stupa artificial glaciers of Phyang village

How Sonam Wangchuk's Ice Stupas are helping Ladakh's farmers adapt to climate-driven water scarcity

Urja R Kudalkar



Source: Sonam Wangchuk

As part of the NIAS Climate Change, Civil Society and Peace (C3SP) initiative in collaboration with GPPAC South Asia, Urja R Kudalkar, research intern at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bengaluru, carried out documentation on the story of the Ice Stupa artificial glaciers of Phyang village, drawing on secondary sources to trace how Sonam Wangchuk's Ice Stupas are helping Ladakh's farmers adapt to climate-driven water scarcity.

"In the Himalayan Dessert Mountains of Ladakh in extreme north of India, a small village has found its way for surviving climate change: IF YOU CANNOT STOP IT, ADAPT TO IT".

Sonam Wangchuk the engineer and educator from Phyang village in Ladakh, is the man behind the solution to a water crisis in the Ladakh. In the cold desert region of Ladakh, farmers from Phyang depend on water from glaciers to grow crops such as barley and vegetables.

However, climate change has caused glaciers to melt at the wrong time. There is plenty of water in summer, but very little during spring leaving deadly gap right in the plantation month of April and May. Since Ladakh receives very little rainfall around 50mm, this water shortage became a serious problem.

In order to solve this issue, Sonam Wangchuk came up with the unique idea of "ICE STUPA" inspired by his mentor Chewang Norphel also known as ice man who had earlier created artificial glaciers, but the problem was they would melt away before the farmers could use them. Given this, Wangchuk realized that the shape of the ice was important. Instead of making wide, flat glaciers, he created tall cone-shaped structures that looked like Buddhist stupas. During winter, water is carried through pipes from upstream water source at higher elevation. The freezing temperatures (-20 degree Celsius) turn the sprayed water into layers of ice, forming a giant cone. This method uses only gravity and natural cold weather, without any pumps or electricity.



Automated Ice Stupa Artificial Glaciers
Source: Sonam Wangchuk

In the winter of 2013-2014, Wangchuk along with his team at SECMOL (Student's Educational and Cultural Movement of Ladakh) tested their prototype on the banks

of Indus River at Phyang at lowest altitude and warmest place possible. Within two months they had built two-storey cone of ice storing 150,000 Litres of water which stayed intact. For farmers of Phyang field that sat dry through April now receive a steady trickle of melt water as the cone slowly shrinks through springs. Land that was barren desert has been planted with 5000 trees. Through his Himalayan Institute of Alternatives Ladakh (HIAL), he continues training a new generation in water conservation, sustainable farming, and ecotourism so that Ladakhis can stay in Ladakh.

Today, more than 30 Ice Stupas have been built across Ladakh. Every winter, as the pipes are laid and the first spray of water rises into the cold air, Wangchuk's team holds on to the same belief: that a cone of frozen water, built by a community, can hold back the desert for one more season.

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About the Author:

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Explainers

Nepal, Climate disasters and Gender:

How Nepal's disaster response has left its gender minorities behind

Namrata L Ghanghatkar



Source: CGTN

On 23 July 2026, Nepal News reported on how climate disasters magnify the daily struggles of sexual and gender minorities in Nepal. It is considered among the ten countries most affected by climate disasters between 2000 and 2019.

Nepal's Supreme Court recognised a third gender in law in 2007, among the earliest such rulings anywhere else in the world. Nepal's sexual and gender minority community, an umbrella spanning LGBTQ and other identities, is estimated at 900,000 people; no census count has verified this figure. In September 2024, monsoon flooding killed 246 people and displaced more than 10,800 households nationwide. The flooding remains one of the country's deadliest disasters. Nepal's disaster planning has never tracked how this community specifically was affected by that flood, or by any other.

Where does the vulnerability to disaster actually start for Nepal's gender minorities?

Climate vulnerability is not a separate problem for Nepal's gender minorities. It is another dimension added to a marginalisation that already exists. The vulnerability that shapes how someone survives a flood or a heatwave is established years before the disaster, through ordinary social rejection that has nothing to do with climate. Coming out, or simply being identified, can cost a person their place in their family home. It can cost them any realistic access to formal employment too. This pushes many toward informal daily wage work and toward land that is cheap because it floods, sits low or was never formally registered. Landlords outside Kathmandu have been reported to refuse tenancy to transgender applicants outright once their identity becomes apparent, alongside exclusion from education and public services more broadly. Whatever a person's specific identity within the community, the buffers most households rely on when disaster hits, savings, land title, a place to return to - are undoubtedly what years of this kind of exclusion tend to strip away first.

Disaster relief and the gender minorities: Where is the issue?

Nepal's disaster response relies on informal community ties and local social standing. Officials and volunteers work out who needs help by asking who belongs. That system serves people still embedded in village and family life. It fails all those already pushed out of that life. This is not an oversight, but that is how the system was built. Paperwork worsens it. Many citizenship certificates still carry a name or gender a person no longer uses, since the 2007 ruling has never been applied consistently. At a bank counter, a hospital desk, or a relief distribution point, that mismatch invites suspicion rather than aid. Many people stop asking for help they are legally owed.

Is anyone accounting, and who carries the heaviest weight?

No one is, not really. The government does not track how disasters affect sexual and

gender minorities; neither do most aid organisations. A 2021 review of Nepal's climate policies, led by ICIMOD, UN Women and the UN Environment Programme, found that gender in practice means women. Everyone else disappears into the language of inclusion without ever being named in it. Dalit and Indigenous members of the community carry an added weight of caste and class discrimination on top of this. Some community groups have tried to fill the gap themselves, running tree planting and flood awareness drives in vulnerable neighbourhoods. The effort is real, but the scale is not.

What has the 2007 ruling actually changed?

Less than it should have. It remains a genuine achievement, but a legal category is not a delivery mechanism. A name on a citizenship card is not a system built to reach the person behind it. Whether someone survives the next monsoon with their home, livelihood, and dignity intact still depends on relief networks and data collection that were never designed with them in mind. They continue to operate that way, by default rather than by decision. Changing this means treating sexual and gender minorities, across the full range of who that includes, as a category disaster planning must account for. Not as one assumes it has already covered.

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About the Author:

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Explainers

The 2026 Assam floods:

Triggers, Structural Vulnerabilities, Early Warnings, Government Response and Recovery

Priyanka Makhijani



Source: Mongabay

On 20 July, The Assam Tribunal and other major sources reported severe flooding began across Assam after days of intense rainfall in the state. These floods developed to be one of the state's worst disasters in the recent years. The death toll has now reached 85, while more than 7 lakh people have been displaced by the deluge. As reported by The Indian Express, over 2.12 lakh people remained affected and 13,000 families are still living without electricity.

What triggered the crisis, and how did it unfold?

The 2026 Assam floods broke from the state's usual script. Normally it is the Brahmaputra itself overflowing that drives the disaster; this year, the trigger was excessive upstream rainfall in Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh, which caused catchment saturation and heavy surface runoff, with south-bank tributaries like the Dikhow, Disang, Janji and Dhansiri rising rapidly past danger marks. Water overtopped embankments before the Brahmaputra itself had even reached peak discharge. Notably, the flooding hit despite Assam receiving significantly less rainfall than normal this season, a paradox explained by the fact that flood risk in a basin as vast as the Brahmaputra's, fed by catchments across Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Bhutan and the Tibetan plateau, depends on the timing and location of rain far more than the seasonal total. From late July, districts including Golaghat, Sivasagar, Biswanath, Charaideo, Kamrup Metropolitan, Jorhat, Dhemaji and Nagaon were engulfed, with entire villages like Sivasagar's Hiloni Nepali Khuti which is home to roughly 200 Gorkha families were washed away within about an hour. By July 31, the death toll stood at 80, with the affected population assessed at 2,12,441 people across 437 villages in 21 revenue circles in eight districts, and around 17,198 hectares of cropland submerged.

Why Assam floods almost every year despite decades of flood control?

Assam's flood vulnerability is structural, not incidental. Embankments have been India's primary flood-mitigation tool in the state since the 1954 National Policy on Floods, and Assam has since built over 4,900 km of embankments which is the country's densest such network relative to state size. But many structures have exceeded their designed lifespan after decades of deferred maintenance, and riverbank erosion continues to eat away thousands of hectares every year, a slower but arguably more permanent crisis than the floods themselves. This year exposed a further weakness: the state's structurally high-risk zones have traditionally clustered along the Brahmaputra and named tributaries such as the Dikhow, Disang, Dhansiri, Buridehing, Beki and Kushiyara, yet 2026's worst-hit districts, Sivasagar and Charaideo, lie outside Assam's traditional flood belt, meaning flood planning built on historical maps alone is no longer sufficient.

Did authorities have enough warning, and could coordination have softened the blow?

There was advance signalling but not full-proof anticipation. Days before the worst

inundation, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma had already flagged that Assam's flood situation was turning critical following heavy rain in neighbouring Arunachal Pradesh, that the Brahmaputra and its tributaries were above danger level, and that the IMD had warned of two to three more days of heavy rain, prompting the state to keep NDRF and Army teams on standby. Even so, opposition parties have argued the government's response fell short: the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee accused Chief Minister Sarma of failing on flood management, relief distribution and rehabilitation, and demanded his resignation, while Congress leader Rahul Gandhi separately called for a more robust flood response system focused on prevention rather than reaction. Analysts point to a specific coordination gap: since the crisis originated in rainfall over Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland rather than within Assam, better integration of upstream rainfall data from neighbouring states could help authorities issue earlier warnings and carry out timelier evacuations, a lesson this year's tributary-driven flooding underscores sharply.

How effective was the rescue, relief and rehabilitation response?

The immediate emergency response was substantial in scale. Indian Army troops of the Spear Corps worked alongside NDRF, SDRF and local agencies, conducting rescue and relief operations, providing medical aid, restoring connectivity and reaching remote stranded families, including through logistic drones, while roughly 1,718 relief centres were operational statewide and tens of thousands of displaced people sheltered across dozens of relief camps and distribution centres. On the financial side, the Centre moved relatively fast: Union Home Minister Amit Shah approved an advance release of INR 2,117.85 crore from the central share of the State Disaster Response Fund for seven flood-affected states, of which Assam received INR 379.35 crore, alongside Inter-Ministerial Central Teams deputed to assess damage, with two such visits already conducted in Assam. Yet the human toll of slow recovery remains visible: by late July, many residents whose homes were damaged or filled with mud and silt were still unable to return even after floodwaters receded, and an inter-ministerial team's damage assessment, road repairs and a comprehensive recovery package for lost homes and livestock were still being worked out even as political leaders pushed for a larger central relief package. That gap between reasonably fast emergency rescue and a much slower rehabilitation pipeline is the recurring pattern critics say Assam needs to break.

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Dialogues

NIAS Youth Climate Connect

A Visit & Interaction by the NIAS 'Grass Roots' Team with Parikrma Oxygen, Bengaluru, on Nature-Based Education, Ecological Restoration and Climate Action



As part of the NIAS Climate Change, Civil Society and Peace (C3SP) initiative, the 'Grass Roots' Team, the NIAS Youth Network on Climate Change, visited ***Parikrma Oxygen*** *on 18 June 2026. Developed by the Parikrma Foundation, the nature-based education and ecological restoration project provided participants with an opportunity to gain first-hand insights into environmental restoration, sustainable land management, biodiversity conservation, and nature-based education.*

Dr. Shukla Bose
Founder-CEO, Parikrma Humanity Foundation

The Parikrama Oxygen Living School was established in response to growing concerns regarding the increasing disconnect between contemporary education, real-life experiences, and the natural environment. The initiative is founded on the belief that nature serves as an essential component of holistic learning and should be integrated into the educational process from an early age.

The programme recognizes that meaningful education extends beyond academic instruction and must equip students with life skills, environmental awareness, and a broader understanding of the world around them. Accordingly, the Oxygen Living School functions as a nature-based learning environment that encourages experiential education and promotes a deeper relationship between children and the natural world. Parikrama works primarily with children from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds, including those residing in urban slum communities. The institution's educational model emphasizes personal development alongside academic achievement, enabling students to overcome the limitations imposed by their circumstances and broaden their aspirations.

A key principle underlying the programme is the recognition that physical and social environments significantly influence thought processes, creativity, and personal growth. To address the constraints experienced by many students in their daily lives, the Oxygen Living School provides open and stimulating spaces that encourage independent thinking, exploration, and ambition.



The initiative is not limited to Parikrama students. The facility is also accessible to children from government schools and other communities where opportunities for exposure to nature and experiential learning may be limited. Through this inclusive approach, the programme seeks to expand access to environmental education and foster greater awareness of sustainable living practices.

The development of the Oxygen Living School has been guided by educational and environmental experts to ensure that the

campus remains both child-friendly and environmentally sustainable. The programme regularly engages naturalists and specialists in fields such as beekeeping, birdwatching, tree conservation, and wildlife awareness. These experts provide students with direct exposure to diverse ecological systems and environmental practices, which are integrated into the broader educational curriculum.

The initiative also seeks to reshape conventional perceptions of career success. While acknowledging the importance of traditional professions such as medicine and engineering, the programme encourages students to explore emerging fields related to conservation, ecological agriculture, environmental stewardship, and sustainable development. By exposing students to these alternative pathways, the programme aims to cultivate future leaders and responsible custodians of the planet.

Kaushik
Outdoor Educator and Naturalist, Parikrma Oxygen



Parikrama Oxygen is an environmental education and ecological restoration initiative developed on a large tract of previously degraded land. The project was established to create opportunities for children, particularly those from underprivileged backgrounds, to engage directly with nature through experiential learning. While outdoor education is often perceived as a privilege accessible to a limited segment of society, the initiative seeks to democratize access to high-quality nature-based learning experiences.
A distinguishing feature of the project is its integration of environmental education with landscape restoration. Prior to its development, the site had undergone significant ecological degradation. Natural landforms, including undulating terrain, seasonal streams, and water channels, had been altered or flattened, resulting in reduced biodiversity and disruption of ecological processes. Restoration efforts have therefore focused on rehabilitating these ecological functions while simultaneously creating a living learning environment for students.

The project is situated within a landscape facing multiple environmental challenges. Surrounding hills exhibit signs of degradation and limited vegetation cover, reflecting broader ecological pressures across the region. The restoration strategy aims to re-establish ecological characteristics representative of the native landscape while maintaining a safe and engaging educational setting. The site functions as an outdoor classroom where participants can explore subjects such as soil ecology, biodiversity conservation, climate change, watershed management, and ecosystem resilience.
The property encompasses a variety of microhabitats and landscape features. A degraded eucalyptus plantation with sparse undergrowth and limited wildlife habitat lies to the south. A lake borders the northern boundary, while agricultural lands managed by local farmers are located to the east and west. Although restoration activities are currently concentrated within the project site, long-term ecological sustainability is expected to require collaboration with neighbouring landowners and relevant government agencies.

Educational programmes are delivered through both day visits and residential camps. Participants engage in hands-on conservation activities, including mulching, invasive species removal, installation of bird baths, biodiversity documentation, and environmental monitoring. Additional experiences such as guided night walks, wildlife observation, camping skills, first aid training, and outdoor safety instruction are

incorporated to strengthen ecological awareness, self-confidence, and environmental stewardship.

Water conservation represents a foundational component of the restoration strategy. The region receives approximately 400 millimetres of annual rainfall, often concentrated in short-duration, high-intensity events, while simultaneously experiencing periods of water scarcity. To address these challenges, contour trenches have been constructed throughout the property to capture rainwater, reduce runoff, and minimise soil erosion. These interventions enhance groundwater recharge, improve soil moisture retention, and support the formation of diverse microhabitats.

At the lowest elevation of the site, a water storage lake has been developed to capture surface runoff and groundwater flows originating from higher elevations. Early observations indicate successful water accumulation during rainy periods. Additional infrastructure, including percolation pits and stormwater drainage systems, has been incorporated to improve water storage capacity and strengthen flood mitigation measures.

Soil restoration efforts primarily rely on natural regeneration processes. The site has been protected through fencing and the strategic application of mulch, enabling native vegetation to re-establish with minimal intervention. Naturally regenerated plant material is subsequently reused as mulch, contributing to nutrient cycling, improved soil fertility, and enhanced moisture retention. Maintaining vegetation cover remains a critical strategy for reducing evaporation and supporting biodiversity in the region's dry climatic conditions.

Beyond ecological restoration, Parikrama Oxygen is envisioned as a centre for environmental learning, innovation, and community engagement. The initiative provides opportunities for children and their families to participate in sustainable livelihood and entrepreneurship activities. One such example is the production of bioenzymes and environmentally friendly cleaning products, which offer both educational value and potential income-generating opportunities.

The site's infrastructure has been designed according to principles of environmental sustainability. Composting toilets facilitate the conversion of organic waste into usable manure, while greywater management systems support landscape irrigation. A large plant nursery contributes to on-site restoration activities and serves as a resource for future outreach programmes involving local farming communities. These efforts encourage the cultivation of native and fruit-bearing tree species that can simultaneously enhance biodiversity and support rural livelihoods.

Educational and recreational facilities have been integrated into the landscape through carefully planned infrastructure. The campus includes outdoor classrooms, nature trails, playgrounds, campsites, and garden spaces designed to support experiential learning. Pathways and access routes have been strategically located to minimise ecological disturbance, ensuring that the majority of the site remains dedicated to habitat conservation and restoration. The long-term restoration vision seeks to preserve and develop a mosaic of ecosystems, including dry forests, grasslands, orchards, and small evergreen groves. Although the surrounding landscape is naturally semi-arid, the selective introduction of evergreen species contributes to the creation of cooler microclimates and provides additional educational opportunities.

Inside Parikrma Oxygen

The Parikrama Oxygen site has undergone significant ecological restoration since its acquisition. At the time of development, the landscape contained only eight to ten mature trees, with limited vegetation cover. Most of the hedgerows, shade trees, and habitat features currently present on the property have been deliberately established through restoration efforts. At the same time, natural regeneration has been

encouraged by protecting the land from disturbance, allowing pollinators and natural ecological processes to facilitate the emergence of native vegetation.



The site has been designed to incorporate multiple ecological features, including habitat islands within water bodies, native tree plantations, bamboo groves, grasslands, and restored stream corridors. Habitat islands are intended to support shade creation, improve aquatic ecosystem health, and provide refuge for amphibians and other small fauna. Native tree species have been selected to enhance biodiversity, improve habitat quality, and provide food resources for wildlife.

The restoration programme has already resulted in increased biodiversity. Large populations of frogs have been recorded, particularly during the monsoon season, indicating the successful establishment of aquatic and semi-aquatic habitats. Reptile diversity has also increased, with regular sightings of species such as checkered keelbacks and olive keelbacks in and around water bodies. Ongoing biodiversity documentation conducted by students contributes to species inventories and ecological monitoring. Several keystone native species have also been prioritised within the restoration strategy. Ficus species, in particular, have been extensively planted because of their ecological significance in supporting birds, mammals, pollinating insects, and other wildlife. Bamboo has also been established along stream corridors, where favourable moisture conditions have supported rapid growth and habitat development.

The restored stream system has been designed to support ecological diversity while maintaining safety considerations for educational activities. With an average depth of approximately 4.5 feet, the water bodies provide varied aquatic habitats capable of supporting multiple species occupying different ecological niches. Evidence of increasing wildlife activity suggests that these habitats are functioning effectively.

A key principle of the restoration approach is balancing active intervention with natural regeneration. While many trees have been planted, considerable emphasis has been placed on allowing the landscape to recover naturally. Restricting movement to designated pathways has reduced disturbance and enabled native species such as neem and scrub forest vegetation to regenerate independently. This approach allows ecological processes to determine the composition of future vegetation communities, resulting in more resilient and locally adapted ecosystems.



The site experiences significant seasonal moisture stress due to its semi-arid conditions. Despite periodic rainfall, soil moisture declines rapidly, leading to extensive ground cracking during summer months. To mitigate these impacts, vegetation cover is maintained across the landscape to reduce evaporation, stabilise soil structure, and protect microhabitats. Mulching and ground-cover management form important components of this strategy.

Native tree species remain a central focus of restoration efforts due to their ecological compatibility with local wildlife. Species

such as silk cotton trees have been planted because they provide food resources, nesting material, and habitat for birds, mammals, and insects. Observations indicate that native vegetation supports significantly greater biodiversity than non-native or commercial plantation species.

The project site borders a large eucalyptus plantation, representing a monoculture ecosystem with relatively low biodiversity. Such plantations provide limited habitat complexity compared to native forest systems. The surrounding landscape highlights broader conservation challenges associated with commercial forestry practices, including reduced ecological diversity and habitat fragmentation. These observations form part of environmental education discussions conducted with students to encourage critical engagement with conservation and land-use issues.
The restoration area also supports a variety of unique ecological features, including lichen communities that serve as indicators of environmental quality. During educational night walks, participants observe ecological phenomena such as fluorescence in lichens under ultraviolet light, providing opportunities to explore biodiversity and ecosystem processes in greater depth.

The surrounding scrub forest ecosystem supports a range of wildlife species, including bears, leopards, civet cats, chameleons, slender lorises, owls, bats, and numerous bird species. Native fruit-bearing trees contribute significantly to supporting these wildlife populations. Increasing observations of resident and visiting fauna indicate improving habitat conditions within and around the restoration site.

Water management remains a critical component of the project. Several water bodies have been created or restored to enhance habitat quality and improve water retention. Historical observations indicate that these wetlands supported large numbers of migratory and resident waterbirds, with records of more than 200–300 individuals during periods of higher water availability. However, reduced inflows and upstream interventions continue to affect water levels.
The site also contains designated camping and outdoor learning areas used for environmental education programmes. These facilities allow children to engage directly with ecological restoration activities and develop practical understanding of biodiversity conservation and sustainable land management.

The restoration strategy incorporates an extensive contour-trenching system designed to maximise rainwater harvesting and soil moisture retention. Trenches have been constructed along natural contour lines using topographical surveys to ensure effective water capture and infiltration. The objective is to retain rainfall on-site, reduce runoff, prevent soil erosion, and enhance groundwater recharge. Excess water is intended to be channelled through interconnected drainage pathways as the restoration infrastructure continues to develop.

The effectiveness of these interventions is evident in the substantial vegetation recovery observed across the site. Areas that were previously barren and heavily degraded now support diverse plant communities and improved soil conditions. Additional water-storage features, including percolation ponds and seasonal lakes, further contribute to hydrological restoration and ecosystem resilience.

The project is located within the Makalidurga hill range and forms part of a broader landscape influenced by agricultural activity, sand mining, and changing land-use patterns. These external factors continue to present challenges for long-term watershed conservation and ecological restoration.

Overall, Parikrama Oxygen demonstrates an integrated approach to ecological restoration, biodiversity conservation, water management, and environmental education. By combining scientific restoration techniques with experiential learning opportunities, the project has successfully transformed a degraded

landscape into a functioning ecosystem and an outdoor learning environment for children and the wider community.

Interaction with the students of Parikrma Schools



An interactive session was conducted between the interns, and research associates from the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) and students from various Parikrama schools at Parikrama Oxygen. The session provided a platform for everyone to reflect on their experiences and share key learnings from the visit. Students discussed their observations from the farmers' market, highlighting the diversity of agricultural produce and the different varieties of tomatoes they encountered, which enhanced their understanding of sustainable farming practices and local food systems.

The participants also shared their impressions of the natural environment at Parikrama Oxygen, expressing appreciation for the opportunity to engage with nature in a meaningful way. Many students spoke about the wildlife they had observed during the day, including birds, insects, amphibians, and other species that demonstrated the site's rich biodiversity. Discussions further explored expectations for the scheduled night walk, with students expressing enthusiasm about observing nocturnal wildlife and gaining a deeper understanding of ecosystem dynamics after dark.

Students reflected on the benefits of spending time away from electronic devices and social media, noting how the experience encouraged mindfulness, observation, and stronger connections with both nature and peers. Participants also discussed the lessons they intended to take back home, including water conservation, waste reduction, tree planting, responsible consumption, and greater appreciation for local biodiversity.

The session concluded with reflections on how the experiences at Parikrama Oxygen could inspire positive behavioural changes in daily life. Students identified several practices they hoped to incorporate into their routines, such as reducing screen time, spending more time outdoors, adopting environmentally responsible habits, and contributing to conservation efforts within their communities. The interaction highlighted the transformative role of experiential environmental education in fostering ecological awareness, sustainability, and responsible citizenship among young learners.

Policy recommendations by the NIAS 'Grass Roots' team based on the visit

1. Integrate nature-based learning into mainstream education

Educational institutions should incorporate experiential and nature-based learning into school curricula. Regular outdoor learning programmes, ecological field visits, biodiversity monitoring, and environmental stewardship activities can complement classroom-based instruction and strengthen students' understanding of sustainability, climate change, and conservation.

2. Expand access to outdoor education for marginalised communities

Government agencies, educational institutions, and non-governmental organisations should collaborate to establish nature-learning centres and environmental camps for children from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Such initiatives can reduce inequalities in access to environmental education while fostering leadership, confidence, and ecological awareness.

4. Strengthen Community-Based Conservation Models

Environmental restoration efforts should actively involve local communities, farmers, educational institutions, and civil society organisations. Participatory conservation models improve long-term sustainability, create local ownership, and facilitate knowledge-sharing between stakeholders.

5. Prioritise native species in afforestation and restoration programmes

Government afforestation programmes should prioritise native and ecologically appropriate species over monoculture plantations. Native vegetation supports greater biodiversity, improves ecosystem resilience, enhances wildlife habitats, and contributes to long-term ecological stability.

6. Review commercial plantation practices in forest landscapes

Forest management policies should reassess the ecological impacts of commercial monoculture plantations, particularly eucalyptus and other non-native species. Restoration of mixed native forests should be prioritised to improve biodiversity, watershed health, and ecosystem functioning.

7. Scale up watershed restoration and rainwater harvesting

Water conservation measures such as contour trenches, percolation pits, recharge structures, and wetland restoration should be integrated into rural development and climate adaptation policies. Such interventions improve groundwater recharge, reduce soil erosion, and enhance resilience to droughts and floods.

8. Establish biodiversity monitoring programmes in schools

Schools and educational institutions should be encouraged to maintain biodiversity inventories and citizen-science programmes. Student participation in monitoring birds, reptiles, amphibians, insects, and vegetation can generate valuable ecological data while strengthening environmental literacy.

9. Create demonstration sites for sustainable land management

Successful projects such as Parikrama Oxygen should be recognised as demonstration sites for ecological restoration, environmental education, and sustainable land management. Replicating similar models across regions can contribute to biodiversity conservation.

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*The above report was compiled by **Sreemaya Nair.***

In Pictures



Students from Parikrma Junior College
&
the NIAS 'Grass Roots' team at Parikrma Oxygen





Documentation

Climate Change, Civil Society & Peace in South Asia

Padmashree Anandhan

AFGHANISTAN

Floods in Nuristan expose Afghanistan's climate and governance challenges

On 21 July, Impact Policies reported that devastating floods in Afghanistan's Nuristan province have exposed the country's deepening climate vulnerability alongside persistent governance and institutional challenges. The report highlighted that increasingly intense rainfall, deforestation and inadequate infrastructure have amplified disaster risks while limiting effective emergency response. Experts noted that repeated climate-induced disasters are worsening humanitarian conditions, displacement and food insecurity across Afghanistan. Discussions focused on strengthening disaster preparedness, improving environmental management and expanding international support for climate adaptation. Analysts argued that climate resilience cannot be achieved without simultaneously addressing governance capacity and long-term development needs. The article reflects the growing overlap between environmental vulnerability, humanitarian crises and state capacity in Afghanistan. ("Nuristan's floods expose Afghanistan's deepening climate and governance crisis," Impact Policies, 21 July 2026.) https://impactpolicies.org/news/1007/nuristans-floods-expose-afghanistans-deepening-climate-and-governance-crisis

Extreme heat intensifies humanitarian and health risks in Afghanistan

On 21 July, Pajhwok Afghan News reported that an ongoing heatwave across Afghanistan is raising serious health and environmental concerns as temperatures continue to climb. Health officials warned that prolonged exposure to extreme heat increases risks of dehydration, heatstroke and other illnesses, particularly among vulnerable populations including children, older people and outdoor workers. Discussions focused on strengthening public awareness, improving access to healthcare and expanding preparedness measures to reduce heat-related impacts. Experts noted that climate change is increasing the frequency and severity of extreme weather events across Afghanistan, further compounding existing humanitarian challenges. Analysts argued that effective adaptation will require integrating heat preparedness into national disaster management and public health planning. The report reflects Afghanistan's growing exposure to climate-induced health risks. ("Heat wave in Afghanistan raises health, environmental concerns," Pajhwok Afghan News, 21 July 2026.) https://pajhwok.com/2026/07/21/heat-wave-in-afghanistan-raises-health-environmental-concerns/

Flash floods kill at least 20, leave more than 100 missing in Nuristan

On 21 July, Daily Mirror reported that flash floods in eastern Afghanistan killed 20 people, injured about 80 more, and left over 100 missing, authorities said on 20 July. The floods struck Parun city and other areas of Nuristan province. Yousaf Hammad, spokesperson for the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority, said a search-and-rescue operation is underway to locate the missing. Hammad said the floods caused heavy loss of life and property, with extensive damage to homes, agricultural land, and public facilities. He urged citizens to stay away from flood-prone zones. Government spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid expressed condolences to victims' families and stressed the need to speed up search efforts. Earlier this year, at least 110 people were killed by flooding and landslides elsewhere in the country. Decades of conflict, poor infrastructure, deforestation, and worsening climate effects

have amplified such disasters, particularly in remote areas where homes are often built of mud.
("Flash floods kill at least 20 in Afghanistan and leave more than 100 missing," Daily Mirror, 21 July 2026)
https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/Flash-floods-kill-at-least-20-in-Afghanistan-and-leave-more-than-100-missing/108-346191

UN warns climate shocks are worsening Afghanistan's displacement crisis
On 09 July, Atlas Press reported that the United Nations has warned Afghanistan's displacement crisis continues to deepen as climate change, economic instability and humanitarian challenges reinforce one another. Experts highlighted that prolonged droughts, floods, declining agricultural productivity and water scarcity are forcing increasing numbers of people to leave their homes while reducing livelihood opportunities. Discussions focused on the urgent need for humanitarian assistance alongside long-term climate adaptation and sustainable development measures. Analysts argued that environmental degradation has become a major driver of displacement, food insecurity and poverty across Afghanistan. The report stressed that addressing climate vulnerability requires stronger international cooperation and investment despite the country's ongoing political and economic challenges. The findings underscore the close relationship between climate change, humanitarian crises and human security.
("UN warns Afghanistan displacement crisis worsened by economic and climate challenges," Atlas Press, 09 July 2026.)
https://atlaspress.news/en/2026/07/07/un-warns-afghanistan-displacement-crisis-economic-climate-challenges/

BANGLADESH

Investment climate critical to achieving Bangladesh's trillion-dollar ambition
On 29 July, The Daily Star argued that Bangladesh's aspiration to become a trillion-dollar economy depends on strengthening its investment climate alongside climate resilience and sustainable development. The editorial highlighted that improving governance, infrastructure, regulatory certainty and environmental sustainability will be essential for attracting long-term domestic and foreign investment. Experts noted that climate-related risks increasingly influence investor confidence, particularly in sectors vulnerable to floods, cyclones and extreme weather. Discussions focused on improving policy consistency, expanding green infrastructure and integrating climate adaptation into economic planning. Analysts argued that resilient and climate-smart investments will be indispensable for sustaining long-term economic growth while reducing future climate-related losses. The article highlights the close relationship between economic competitiveness and climate resilience.
("Trillion-dollar ambition needs a stronger investment climate," The Daily Star, 29 July 2026.)
https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/views/news/trillion-dollar-ambition-needs-stronger-investment-climate-4235006

Bangladesh launches one million seed drive for coastal restoration
On 29 July, Climate Watch reported that Bangladesh has launched a nationwide campaign to distribute one million seeds to support coastal ecosystem restoration and strengthen climate resilience. The initiative aims to restore degraded coastal landscapes, enhance biodiversity and increase natural protection against cyclones, storm surges and coastal erosion. Officials emphasised that expanding vegetation cover contributes to carbon sequestration while supporting sustainable livelihoods and ecosystem health. Experts noted that nature-based solutions are becoming an increasingly important component of Bangladesh's climate adaptation strategy. Analysts argued that large-scale ecological restoration can complement engineered coastal protection while improving long-term environmental resilience. The programme reflects Bangladesh's continued emphasis on ecosystem-based adaptation to address rising climate risks.
("Bangladesh launches one million seed drive for coastal restoration," Climate

Watch, 29 July 2026.)
https://theclimatewatch.com/bangladesh-launches-one-million-seed-drive-for-coastal-restoration/

Bangladesh strengthens adaptation efforts amid rising climate risks
On 29 July, Daily Sun reported that Bangladesh continues to expand its climate adaptation initiatives to improve resilience against increasingly frequent floods, cyclones and other climate-related hazards. Officials highlighted programmes focused on strengthening local disaster preparedness, sustainable agriculture and climate-resilient infrastructure. Discussions emphasised improving coordination between national and local authorities while increasing community participation in adaptation efforts. Experts observed that locally driven resilience measures remain essential for protecting vulnerable populations from intensifying climate impacts. Analysts argued that sustained investments in adaptation and institutional capacity will be necessary as climate variability continues to grow. The report reflects Bangladesh's broader commitment to integrating climate resilience into long-term development planning.
("Bangladesh expands climate adaptation initiatives," Daily Sun, 29 July 2026.)
https://www.daily-sun.com/news/889125

Experts stress stronger national commitment to climate resilience
On 29 July, The New Nation reported growing calls for Bangladesh to strengthen national efforts to address climate change through coordinated policies and sustainable development strategies. The report highlighted increasing concerns over sea-level rise, river erosion, extreme weather events and their impacts on livelihoods and economic development. Experts emphasised the importance of expanding climate finance, strengthening environmental governance and improving adaptation planning across sectors. Discussions focused on building resilient infrastructure, protecting vulnerable communities and integrating climate considerations into broader development policies. Analysts argued that sustained political commitment and institutional coordination will be critical for maintaining Bangladesh's leadership among climate-vulnerable developing countries. The article reinforces the importance of comprehensive and long-term climate governance.
("Bangladesh calls for stronger climate resilience measures," The New Nation, 29 July 2026.)
https://dailynewnation.com/news/845544

Bangladesh strengthens climate resilience through community-focused initiatives
On 28 July, The Bangladesh Today reported on Bangladesh's continued efforts to strengthen climate resilience through community-based adaptation and sustainable development initiatives. Officials highlighted programmes aimed at improving disaster preparedness, protecting vulnerable populations and enhancing resilience against floods, cyclones and other climate-induced hazards. Discussions focused on integrating climate adaptation into local governance, expanding environmental awareness and strengthening coordination among government institutions and development partners. Experts noted that community participation remains essential for translating national climate policies into effective local action. Analysts argued that locally driven adaptation measures will become increasingly important as climate risks intensify across Bangladesh's coastal and riverine regions. The report reflects the country's ongoing emphasis on inclusive and decentralised approaches to climate resilience.
("Bangladesh advances community-based climate resilience initiatives," The Bangladesh Today, 28 July 2026.)
https://thebangladeshtoday.com/?p=35647

Bangladesh places workers at the centre of climate implementation
On 26 July, Climate Watch reported that Bangladesh's implementation strategy for its updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0) places workers at the heart of climate action. The plan seeks

to ensure that climate mitigation and adaptation policies generate decent employment while protecting workers affected by the transition towards a low-carbon economy. Officials highlighted the importance of developing green skills, expanding social protection and promoting inclusive economic growth alongside emissions reduction. Experts argued that integrating labour considerations into climate planning strengthens both resilience and public support for climate policies. Analysts observed that Bangladesh's approach reflects a growing international emphasis on ensuring that climate transitions remain equitable and socially inclusive.
("Bangladesh puts workers at heart of NDC 3.0 climate implementation plan," Climate Watch, 26 July 2026.)
https://theclimatewatch.com/bangladesh-puts-workers-at-heart-of-ndc-3-0-climate-implementation-plan/

Bangladesh and Maldives reaffirm commitment to climate cooperation
On 26 July, The Business Standard reported that Bangladesh and the Maldives reaffirmed their shared commitment to strengthening cooperation on climate action during high-level diplomatic discussions. Officials emphasised collaboration on climate adaptation, sustainable development, international climate negotiations and the interests of climate-vulnerable developing countries. Experts noted that both nations face severe threats from sea-level rise, extreme weather events and coastal vulnerabilities despite contributing minimally to global emissions. Discussions focused on strengthening partnerships in climate diplomacy, capacity building and international advocacy for increased climate finance. Analysts argued that enhanced cooperation between vulnerable countries can strengthen collective influence in global climate negotiations while promoting shared adaptation priorities.
("Bangladesh, Maldives share commitment to climate action: FM," The Business Standard, 26 July 2026.)
https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/bangladesh-maldives-share-commitment-climate-action-fm-1498946

Millions of Bangladeshi children remain at growing climate risk
On 26 July, Dhaka Tribune reported that nearly 59 million children in Bangladesh face increasing risks from climate change through exposure to floods, cyclones, heatwaves, water insecurity and displacement. The report highlighted that climate impacts threaten children's health, nutrition, education and long-term wellbeing, particularly in vulnerable coastal and riverine communities. Experts stressed the need to strengthen child-centred adaptation policies, resilient schools, healthcare services and disaster preparedness programmes. Discussions focused on improving social protection and ensuring that climate planning adequately addresses children's specific vulnerabilities. Analysts argued that investing in child-focused climate resilience will be critical for protecting Bangladesh's future human capital as climate risks intensify.
("59m children at climate risk in Bangladesh," Dhaka Tribune, 26 July 2026.)
https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/415963/59m-children-at-climate-risk-is-bangladesh

Population planning must account for climate-driven mobility
On 26 July, The Daily Star argued that Bangladesh's population planning policies should increasingly incorporate the realities of climate-induced migration. The commentary noted that floods, cyclones, river erosion and sea-level rise are reshaping demographic patterns as growing numbers of people relocate from vulnerable regions to urban centres. Experts emphasised that climate mobility has implications for housing, healthcare, employment, education and public service delivery. Discussions focused on integrating migration into national adaptation strategies, urban planning and social protection programmes. Analysts argued that recognising climate-driven mobility as a long-term development challenge will improve policy coordination and strengthen resilience among displaced populations. The article highlights the growing

intersection of climate change, demographic planning and sustainable development in Bangladesh.
("Why Bangladesh's population planning must factor climate-driven mobility," The Daily Star, 26 July 2026.)
https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/views/news/why-bangladeshs-population-planning-must-factor-climate-driven-mobility-4231631

Climate extremes outpace Bangladesh's warning systems

On 24 July, Asia News Network reported that Bangladesh's disaster early warning systems are struggling to keep pace with increasingly frequent and intense climate-related events. While the country has made significant progress in cyclone preparedness over recent decades, experts warned that changing rainfall patterns, flash floods, heatwaves and compound disasters are creating new forecasting and communication challenges. Discussions focused on modernising meteorological services, expanding community-based warning networks and improving last-mile communication to vulnerable populations. Analysts argued that strengthening early warning systems will be critical for reducing disaster losses as climate risks continue to evolve. The report highlights the need to continuously upgrade disaster risk management institutions in response to accelerating climate change.
("Bangladesh's warning system struggles to keep pace as climate events intensify," Asia News Network, 24 July 2026.)
https://asianews.network/bangladeshs-warning-system-struggles-to-keep-pace-as-climate-events-intensify/

High Court demands government justification over failure to protect Chakaria Sundarbans

On 20 July, The Climate Watch reported that the country's High Court issued a ruling asking the government to justify its failure to restore the Chakaria Sundarbans, and explain why its notifications de-reserving parts of the forest should not be declared illegal and unconstitutional. The bench of Justice Fahmida Quader and Justice Md Ashif Hasan issued the ruling after a hearing on a writ petition filed by the Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA). The court asked why notifications de-reserving the protected forest should not be declared unconstitutional. It also sought an explanation on why authorities should not be directed to cancel illegal leases, evict unauthorised occupants, and restore the 21,020.45 acres of protected Chakaria Sundarbans in Cox's Bazar. Respondents include secretaries of the land, environment, forest, fisheries, and agriculture ministries, along with senior forest and district officials. BELA said the mangrove forest has been almost entirely lost due to illegal encroachment and de-reservation, despite repeated directives to recover it, violating the Forest Act, 1927, and Article 18A of the Constitution.
("High Court seeks government response over protection of Chakaria Sundarbans," The Climate Watch, 20 July 2026)
https://theclimatewatch.com/high-court-seeks-government-response-over-protection-of-chakaria-sundarbans/

A Seminar in Dhaka warns of air pollution killing nearly 242 people everyday across six major cities

On 20 July, The Climate Watch reported that speakers at a Dhaka seminar said air pollution is killing 242 people every day in six major cities. Dhaka and Chattogram account for 48 per cent of these deaths. The seminar, "Taking action for climate, controlling air pollution and building liveable cities," was held on 19 July at the Department of Environment to mark World Environment Day 2026. Speakers said around 68,703 people die annually in Dhaka and 11,202 in Chattogram due to air pollution. They said green areas in Dhaka have declined by 9 per cent over 28 years, while concrete coverage has risen to 82 per cent, and wetlands have fallen to just 2.9 per cent. They said household waste is being burned at dumps nationwide, worsening pollution, and that this must stop. Air pollution has also become a cause of children being born with disabilities, they said. The country spends 8.3 per cent of its GDP on air pollution, speakers said, calling for lower import duties on pollution-reduction products.

("Seminar warns Bangladesh cities face rising air pollution deaths," The Climate Watch, 20 July 2026.)
https://theclimatewatch.com/seminar-warns-bangladesh-cities-face-rising-air-pollution-deaths/

Extreme heat could cost workers 23.75 days of income a year by 2030, warns a new global report

On 19 July, The Climate Watch reported that according to a new global report titled "Heat, Health and the Increasing Costs of Living – A Call for Action," published by adelphi global, climate driven extreme heat is reducing incomes and increasing healthcare costs, placing millions of households under double financial burden with outdoor labourers facing greater risks. The report identifies Bangladesh as one of the most vulnerable to the combined economic impacts of extreme heat, alongside India and Nigeria, due to widespread informal employment and limited social protection. Workers in agriculture and construction could lose the equivalent of 23.75 working days annually due to heat stress by 2030. Working-hour losses in these sectors are expected to rise from 6.28 per cent today to 9.58 per cent by 2030 under a low-emissions scenario. In 2023, 79.3 per cent of total health expenditure was paid directly by households, one of the highest rates among countries examined. Annual out-of-pocket medical spending per person has risen more than 830 per cent since 2000. The country lost an estimated USD 24 billion in labour income and productivity to extreme heat in 2024, equivalent to about 5 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP). The report urged governments to strengthen public health systems, extend social protection to heat-affected workers, and mobilise climate finance for health and labour protection.

("Extreme heat threatens Bangladesh workers' incomes, report warns," The Climate Watch, 19 July 2026.)
https://theclimatewatch.com/extreme-heat-threatens-bangladesh-workers-incomes-report-warns/

Bangladesh's wind capacity remains stuck at 62 MW despite over 30,000 MW coastal potential

On 18 July, The Climate Watch reported that the country's installed wind capacity remains stuck at 62 MW, just 3.4 per cent of its renewable mix, despite a larger project pipeline and gross wind potential above 30,000 MW along the coast. Experts cited slow approvals, weak grid infrastructure, and fossil-fuel dependence as key barriers. Solar dominates the renewable mix at 83.9 per cent, according to national database SREDA. Of 15 registered wind projects, only four are operational and one is under construction; ten remain stuck at the planning stage. A May report by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA) found renewables contribute just 2.3 per cent of grid-based electricity, against a global average of 33.8 per cent. Average power-generation costs rose 83 per cent between FY2020-21 and FY2024-25, driven by imported fuel costs. India's installed wind capacity stands nearly 927 times higher, and Pakistan's nearly 30 times higher, than the country's. Change Initiative's M Zakir Hossain Khan stated that at least 3,000 MW of wind projects could proceed with foreign investment if transmission facilities are strengthened.

("Bangladesh's wind power push stalls amid fossil fuel dependence and grid failures," The Climate Watch, 18 July 2026.)
https://theclimatewatch.com/bangladeshs-wind-power-push-stalls-amid-fossil-fuel-dependence-and-grid-failures/

Bangladesh Bank partners to expand green finance and climate investment

On 13 July, SolarQuarter reported that Bangladesh Bank and the Sustainable Climate Opportunity Platform (SCOP) have entered into a partnership aimed at accelerating green finance and climate investment across the country. The collaboration seeks to strengthen sustainable financing mechanisms, encourage private-sector investment and support climate-resilient economic development. Officials emphasised that expanding green finance is essential for achieving Bangladesh's climate goals while

supporting low-carbon growth. Experts noted that financial institutions will play an increasingly important role in mobilising capital for renewable energy, climate adaptation and sustainable infrastructure projects. Analysts argued that innovative financing mechanisms are necessary to bridge the gap between growing climate investment needs and available public resources. The initiative reflects Bangladesh's broader efforts to strengthen its green financial ecosystem and attract climate investment.
("Bangladesh Bank and SCOP partner to accelerate green finance and climate investment," SolarQuarter, 13 July 2026.)
https://solarquarter.com/2026/07/13/bangladesh-bank-and-scop-partner-to-accelerate-green-finance-and-climate-investment/

Prime Minister links tree planting with community welfare initiatives
On 13 July, Climate Watch reported that Bangladesh's Prime Minister participated in a nationwide tree-planting initiative while meeting women receiving government welfare support. Officials described afforestation as an important component of Bangladesh's climate adaptation and environmental conservation strategy. Discussions highlighted the role of community participation, ecosystem restoration and women's empowerment in strengthening local climate resilience. Experts noted that expanding tree cover contributes to biodiversity conservation, carbon sequestration and improved ecosystem services while supporting sustainable livelihoods. Analysts argued that integrating environmental programmes with social welfare initiatives can strengthen both resilience and inclusive development. The event reflects Bangladesh's continued emphasis on combining climate action with broader social and economic policy objectives.
("Bangladesh PM plants trees, meets women receiving welfare cards," Climate Watch, 13 July 2026.)
https://theclimatewatch.com/bangladesh-pm-plants-trees-meets-women-receiving-welfare-cards/

Experts urge Bangladesh's climate budget to prioritise displaced communities
On 13 July, The Daily Star argued that Bangladesh's climate budget should place greater emphasis on supporting communities displaced by climate change. The commentary highlighted that floods, cyclones, river erosion and sea-level rise continue to force thousands of people to migrate each year, placing increasing pressure on urban centres and public services. Experts stressed that climate displacement should become a central consideration in national adaptation planning and budget allocations. Discussions focused on strengthening social protection, resilient housing, livelihood support and urban planning for displaced populations. Analysts argued that addressing climate-induced displacement requires coordinated investments across multiple sectors rather than isolated humanitarian interventions. The article reflects growing recognition that climate migration has become one of Bangladesh's most pressing development challenges.
("Our climate budget must prioritise the displaced," The Daily Star, 13 July 2026.)
https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/views/news/our-climate-budget-must-prioritise-the-displaced-4222291

University students encouraged to strengthen climate awareness
On 09 July, The Daily Campus reported on initiatives aimed at strengthening climate awareness and environmental engagement among university students in Bangladesh. Educators and experts highlighted the importance of equipping young people with knowledge and practical skills to address climate change through research, innovation and community action. Discussions focused on climate literacy, sustainable lifestyles and youth participation in environmental policymaking. Experts noted that universities can play a critical role in preparing future leaders capable of responding to increasingly complex climate challenges. Analysts argued that expanding climate education will strengthen public awareness while supporting Bangladesh's

long-term adaptation and sustainable development goals. The initiative reflects growing recognition that youth engagement and education are essential components of national climate resilience.
("University initiative promotes climate awareness among students," The Daily Campus, 09 July 2026.)
https://english.thedailycampus.com/national/3137

International Climate Camp highlights youth-led regional climate cooperation
On 08 July, Dhaka Tribune reported the inauguration of the Second International Climate Camp in Nepal, bringing together young climate leaders, researchers and practitioners from across South Asia. The programme seeks to strengthen regional cooperation by promoting knowledge exchange on climate adaptation, sustainability and community resilience. Participants discussed issues including mountain ecosystems, climate justice, youth leadership and innovative adaptation practices. Experts noted that cross-border collaboration has become increasingly important as countries across South Asia face interconnected climate risks such as glacier retreat, floods and extreme weather events. Analysts argued that youth-led regional platforms can help bridge scientific knowledge, policy discussions and grassroots action while building long-term networks among future climate leaders. The initiative reflects growing recognition of young people's role in advancing regional climate diplomacy and collaborative adaptation efforts.
("2nd International Climate Camp begins in Nepal," Dhaka Tribune, 08 July 2026.)
https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/foreign-affairs/414602/2nd-international-climate-camp-begins-in-nepal

Bangladesh's climate diplomacy gains greater international prominence
On 08 July, Asia Times analysed Bangladesh's increasingly proactive role in international climate diplomacy, arguing that the country has emerged as one of the leading voices representing climate-vulnerable developing nations. The report noted that Bangladesh has consistently advocated for stronger commitments on climate finance, adaptation support and the operationalisation of the Loss and Damage Fund during global climate negotiations. Experts observed that the country's domestic experience in disaster preparedness and climate adaptation has strengthened its international credibility. Discussions focused on Bangladesh's efforts to influence negotiations ahead of COP31 while building partnerships with developing countries facing similar climate challenges. Analysts argued that Bangladesh is increasingly combining domestic adaptation achievements with active diplomatic engagement to shape global climate governance. The article reflects the country's growing influence within international climate policy discussions.
("Bangladesh's climate diplomacy moves to the vanguard," Asia Times, 08 July 2026.)
https://asiatimes.com/2026/07/bangladeshs-climate-diplomacy-moves-to-the-vanguard/

Bangladesh continues strengthening local climate resilience
On 08 July, Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) reported ongoing initiatives aimed at strengthening climate resilience at the district level through community-based adaptation and sustainable development programmes. Officials highlighted efforts to improve disaster preparedness, climate-smart agriculture, environmental conservation and resilient infrastructure in vulnerable regions. Discussions focused on empowering local administrations to implement national climate policies while enhancing community awareness of climate risks. Experts noted that effective adaptation depends on translating national strategies into locally driven action supported by adequate financial and institutional capacity. Analysts argued that strengthening district-level governance will play a critical role in reducing vulnerability to floods, cyclones and other climate-induced hazards. The report reflects Bangladesh's continued emphasis on decentralising climate adaptation and integrating resilience into local development planning.
("Climate resilience initiatives highlighted

at district level," BSS News, 08 July 2026.)
https://www.bssnews.net/district/403216

Bangladesh strengthens local climate resilience initiatives

On 07 July, Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) reported continued efforts to strengthen climate resilience at the local level through community-based adaptation and sustainable development initiatives. Officials highlighted the importance of improving disaster preparedness, protecting livelihoods and strengthening environmental management in climate-vulnerable districts. Discussions focused on building resilient infrastructure, promoting climate-smart agriculture and expanding public awareness regarding climate risks. Experts noted that local governments play an increasingly important role in implementing national adaptation strategies and ensuring that vulnerable communities receive timely support. Analysts argued that effective climate governance depends on translating national policies into locally driven action supported by adequate financial and institutional resources. The report reflects Bangladesh's continued emphasis on integrating climate resilience into district-level planning as climate impacts become more frequent and severe.
("Climate resilience initiatives highlighted at district level," BSS News, 07 July 2026.)
https://www.bssnews.net/district/403216

Bangladesh unveils roadmap to expand its carbon credit market

On 05 July, Climate Watch reported that Bangladesh's interim government has unveiled a roadmap to expand the country's carbon credit market as part of its broader climate and green growth strategy. Officials stated that developing a transparent carbon market could attract international investment, mobilise climate finance and support emissions reduction initiatives across multiple sectors. Discussions focused on establishing regulatory frameworks, improving carbon accounting systems and encouraging private-sector participation. Experts noted that a well-functioning carbon market could create new economic opportunities while supporting Bangladesh's climate commitments under the Paris Agreement. Analysts argued that success will depend on strong governance, credible monitoring systems and alignment with evolving international carbon market standards. The initiative reflects Bangladesh's growing efforts to diversify climate finance sources while accelerating its transition towards a low-carbon economy.
("PM Tareque Rahman unveils roadmap to expand Bangladesh's carbon credit market," Climate Watch, 05 July 2026.)
https://theclimatewatch.com/pm-tareque-rahman-unveils-roadmap-to-expand-bangladeshs-carbon-credit-market/

Experts question gaps in Bangladesh's climate budget

On 02 July, The Daily Star analysed Bangladesh's FY2026–27 climate budget, highlighting concerns over areas that remain underfunded despite increasing climate risks. Experts acknowledged that the government has expanded climate-related allocations but argued that significant gaps remain in financing adaptation, local resilience and long-term preparedness. Discussions focused on whether current spending adequately addresses challenges such as sea-level rise, cyclones, salinity intrusion, climate-induced migration and disaster-risk reduction. Analysts stressed that stronger institutional coordination and improved monitoring mechanisms will be essential to maximise the effectiveness of climate expenditure. The report also highlighted the need for greater transparency and stronger domestic resource mobilisation alongside international climate finance. The analysis reflects broader debates on ensuring that Bangladesh's fiscal policies effectively support its ambitious climate resilience and sustainable development objectives.
("What's missing in the FY2026–27 climate budget," The Daily Star, 02 July 2026.)
https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/views/news/whats-missing-the-fy2026-27-climate-budget-4208611

Bangladesh and ICIMOD deepen partnership on climate resilience

On 02 July, Climate Watch reported that Bangladesh and the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) have agreed to strengthen cooperation on climate resilience and environmental sustainability. The partnership seeks to enhance scientific collaboration, knowledge sharing and policy support on climate adaptation, water security, disaster risk reduction and ecosystem management. Experts noted that although Bangladesh lies downstream of the Himalayas, environmental changes in mountain ecosystems directly influence river systems, flooding and water availability across the country. Discussions focused on improving regional cooperation to better understand transboundary climate risks and strengthen resilience strategies. Analysts argued that stronger partnerships between South Asian countries and regional scientific institutions are becoming increasingly important as climate impacts transcend national boundaries. The collaboration reflects growing recognition of the interconnected nature of South Asia's climate challenges.

("Bangladesh and ICIMOD strengthen partnership for climate resilience," Climate Watch, 02 July 2026.)
https://theclimatewatch.com/bangladesh-and-icimod-strengthen-partnership-for-climate-resilience/

Climate migration continues reshaping urban Bangladesh

On 02 July, Reuters highlighted the growing reality of climate-induced migration in Bangladesh as thousands of displaced families continue relocating to urban informal settlements. The report described how recurrent floods, river erosion, cyclones and salinity intrusion are forcing rural communities to abandon their homes in search of livelihoods elsewhere. Experts noted that many climate migrants settle in overcrowded urban slums where access to housing, sanitation, healthcare and employment remains limited. Discussions focused on the need for long-term adaptation strategies addressing both rural resilience and urban planning challenges. Analysts argued that climate migration should increasingly be recognised as a central development issue rather than solely a humanitarian concern. The report reflects Bangladesh's position at the forefront of global debates surrounding climate displacement, adaptation and sustainable urbanisation.

("Bangladesh climate migrant slum," Reuters, 02 July 2026.)
https://www.reutersconnect.com/item/bangladesh-climate-migrant-slum/dGFnOnJldXRlcnMuY29tLDIwMjE6bmV3c21sX01UMUhOU0xDUzAwMDM5MVNLOQ

Bangladesh expands clean energy ambitions amid climate finance uncertainty

On 01 July, Climate Watch reported that Bangladesh is accelerating its transition towards cleaner energy while navigating continued uncertainty surrounding international climate finance ahead of COP31. Officials highlighted renewable energy expansion as a critical component of national climate and development strategies. However, experts noted that limited financial support from developed countries continues to constrain implementation. Discussions focused on balancing energy security, economic growth, and emissions reduction while attracting greater public and private investment. Analysts argued that predictable climate finance will be essential for enabling developing countries to achieve ambitious energy transitions without compromising development objectives. The report reflects broader concerns across South Asia regarding the gap between international climate finance commitments and actual financial flows. Bangladesh continues to advocate for stronger global support while pursuing domestic clean energy reforms.

("Bangladesh bets on clean power as climate finance clouds South Asia's COP31 road," Climate Watch, 01 July 2026.)
https://theclimatewatch.com/bangladesh-bets-on-clean-power-as-climate-finance-clouds-south-asias-cop31-road/

Budget analysis highlights Bangladesh's evolving climate priorities

On 01 July, The Daily Star examined Bangladesh's FY2026–27 budget through the lens of climate resilience and sustainable development. Experts observed that climate considerations have become increasingly integrated into national fiscal planning, reflecting the country's growing exposure to floods, cyclones, sea-level rise, and salinity intrusion. The analysis noted that while the budget demonstrates stronger recognition of climate risks, concerns remain regarding whether current allocations are sufficient to meet rapidly rising adaptation needs. Discussions focused on climate finance, resilient infrastructure, disaster preparedness, and institutional implementation. Analysts stressed that stronger domestic resource mobilisation and improved governance will be necessary to complement international climate funding. The report reflects ongoing national debates about ensuring that fiscal policy supports long-term resilience while safeguarding economic development and vulnerable communities.

("What the FY2026–27 budget reveals about Bangladesh's climate priorities," The Daily Star, 01 July 2026.)
https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/views/news/what-the-fy2026-27-budget-reveals-about-bangladeshs-climate-priorities-4202326

BHUTAN

Bhutan and Global Carbon Council partner to strengthen carbon markets

On 28 July, The Peninsula Qatar reported that Bhutan's Department of Environment and Climate Change signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Global Carbon Council (GCC) to strengthen cooperation on carbon market development. The partnership aims to enhance technical capacity, promote high-integrity carbon credit mechanisms and support Bhutan's climate mitigation efforts. Officials highlighted that the collaboration will help develop transparent carbon market frameworks aligned with international standards while contributing to sustainable development objectives. Experts noted that robust carbon markets can mobilise climate finance and incentivise emissions reductions alongside ecosystem conservation. Analysts argued that Bhutan's carbon-negative status positions it to play a significant role in emerging international carbon markets. The agreement reflects Bhutan's efforts to leverage environmental stewardship for sustainable economic opportunities.

("GCC, Bhutan's Department of Environment and Climate Change sign MoU," The Peninsula Qatar, 28 July 2026.)
https://m.thepeninsulaqatar.com/article/28/07/2026/gcc-bhutans-department-of-environment-and-climate-change-sign-mou

Bhutan advances high-integrity carbon market cooperation

On 28 July, Qatar Tribune reported that Bhutan and the Global Carbon Council have agreed to advance cooperation on developing high-integrity carbon markets. The initiative seeks to strengthen carbon credit certification, environmental integrity and international market confidence while supporting Bhutan's climate commitments. Discussions focused on building institutional capacity, promoting transparent verification mechanisms and attracting climate-related investments. Experts observed that credible carbon markets can create new financial opportunities for countries with strong conservation records while supporting global emissions reduction efforts. Analysts argued that Bhutan's extensive forest cover and carbon-negative profile provide a strong foundation for participation in international carbon finance mechanisms. The partnership reflects growing international interest in ensuring environmental credibility within global carbon trading systems.

("Bhutan, GCC ink MoU to advance high-integrity carbon markets," Qatar Tribune, 28 July 2026.)
https://www.qatar-tribune.com/article/246173/nation/bhutan-gcc-ink-mou-to-advance-high-integrity-carbon-markets

Water shortages threaten Bhutan's paddy cultivation

On 23 July, Asia News Network reported that farmers across Bhutan are struggling to transplant paddy as water shortages delay the agricultural season. The article highlighted that erratic rainfall and changing weather patterns have reduced water availability during a critical period for rice cultivation, raising concerns over food production and rural livelihoods. Experts noted that climate variability is increasingly affecting traditional farming calendars, requiring improved irrigation systems and more resilient agricultural practices. Discussions focused on strengthening water resource management, promoting climate-smart agriculture and supporting farming communities through adaptive measures. Analysts argued that enhancing resilience in Bhutan's agriculture sector will be essential as climate change intensifies pressure on water resources. The report underscores the growing link between climate change, water security and food security in the Himalayan region.
("Bhutan farmers race against time as water shortages delay paddy transplantation," Asia News Network, 23 July 2026.)
https://asianews.network/bhutan-farmers-race-against-time-as-water-shortages-delay-paddy-transplantation/

Rising temperatures challenge Bhutan's connectivity and infrastructure

On 05 July, Asia News Network reported that rising global temperatures are creating new challenges for Bhutan's transport connectivity and infrastructure. Extreme weather events, glacial hazards, landslides and changing precipitation patterns increasingly disrupt roads and mountain transport networks that connect remote communities with essential services and markets. Experts noted that Bhutan's mountainous terrain makes transport infrastructure particularly vulnerable to climate-related disasters. Discussions focused on strengthening resilient infrastructure, improving maintenance systems and integrating climate risk assessments into future development planning. Analysts argued that reliable connectivity is essential not only for economic development but also for disaster response, healthcare and education. The report highlights how climate change increasingly affects national infrastructure and regional accessibility across Himalayan countries.
("Bhutan's growing challenge to remain connected amidst rising global temperatures," Asia News Network, 05 July 2026.)
https://asianews.network/bhutans-growing-challenge-to-remain-connected-amidst-rising-global-temperatures/

UNICEF warns most children in Bhutan face climate hazards

On 05 July, UNICEF Bhutan reported that nearly 90 per cent of children in Bhutan are exposed to one or more climate-related hazards, according to a recent assessment. The report identified floods, landslides, glacial lake outburst floods, changing weather patterns and extreme temperatures as growing threats to children's health, education and wellbeing. Experts noted that climate impacts can disrupt schooling, healthcare access, nutrition and child protection systems, making children among the country's most vulnerable populations. Discussions emphasised integrating child-centred approaches into disaster preparedness, climate adaptation and national development planning. Analysts argued that safeguarding children's wellbeing should become a central objective of Bhutan's climate resilience strategy. The findings reinforce growing international recognition that climate change increasingly threatens child development and human security.
("About 90 per cent of children in Bhutan exposed to climate hazards, UNICEF report finds," UNICEF Bhutan, 05 July 2026.)
https://www.unicef.org/bhutan/press-releases/about-90-cent-children-bhutan-exposed-climate-hazards-unicef-report-finds

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The report identified floods, landslides, glacial lake outburst floods, changing weather patterns and extreme temperatures as growing threats to children's health, education, nutrition and overall wellbeing. Experts noted that children are among the most vulnerable groups because climate impacts can disrupt schooling, healthcare access, food security and protection systems. Discussions emphasised the need to integrate child-centred approaches into national climate adaptation, disaster preparedness and development planning. Analysts argued that protecting children from climate risks should become a core priority within Bhutan's resilience strategy. The findings reinforce growing international recognition that climate change increasingly poses significant risks to child development and human security.
("About 90 per cent of children in Bhutan exposed to climate hazards, UNICEF report finds," UNICEF Bhutan, 02 July 2026.)
https://www.unicef.org/bhutan/press-releases/about-90-cent-children-bhutan-exposed-climate-hazards-unicef-report-finds

INDIA

UN warns global climate alarm is 'blaring in every direction'

On 30 July, the United Nations in India highlighted the UN Secretary-General's warning that the global climate crisis has reached unprecedented levels, with climate signals now "blaring in every direction." The statement cited accelerating global temperatures, intensifying extreme weather events and mounting scientific evidence demonstrating the urgent need for faster emissions reductions and stronger adaptation efforts. Experts stressed that countries must accelerate implementation of their climate commitments while scaling up finance for vulnerable nations. Discussions focused on strengthening international cooperation ahead of future climate negotiations and ensuring that climate action remains central to sustainable development. Analysts argued that delaying mitigation and adaptation will significantly increase economic, environmental and humanitarian costs worldwide. The statement reinforces the urgency of coordinated global climate action.
("Climate alarm 'blaring in every direction'," United Nations in India, 30 July 2026.)
https://india.un.org/en/320293-climate-alarm-%E2%80%98blaring-every-direction%E2%80%99

UNICEF empowers children as leaders in climate action

On 30 July, UNICEF India highlighted initiatives designed to strengthen children's participation in climate action by promoting environmental education, youth engagement and community resilience. The programmes encourage children and young people to participate in awareness campaigns, local adaptation initiatives and climate advocacy while building knowledge about environmental sustainability. Experts noted that investing in climate education helps prepare future generations to address increasingly complex environmental challenges. Discussions focused on integrating child-centred approaches into national climate strategies and strengthening resilience in schools and communities. Analysts argued that meaningful youth participation enhances both public awareness and long-term climate governance by encouraging inclusive decision-making. The initiative reflects growing international recognition of children as important stakeholders in climate resilience.
("Driving climate action with children in India," UNICEF India, 30 July 2026.)
https://www.unicef.org/india/driving-climate-action-children-india

Climate-resilient housing becomes increasingly important in India

On 30 July, The Wire reported that climate change is raising new questions about the resilience of residential buildings as India experiences more frequent floods, cyclones, heatwaves and extreme rainfall. The article highlighted that many existing homes were designed for historical climate conditions rather than today's increasingly volatile weather patterns. Experts emphasised incorporating climate-resilient construction

standards, improved drainage systems, energy-efficient designs and disaster-resistant materials into future housing development. Discussions focused on updating building regulations and increasing public awareness of climate-resilient housing practices. Analysts argued that strengthening household resilience will become an increasingly important component of India's broader climate adaptation strategy. The report highlights the growing intersection between climate change, urban planning and housing policy. ("Your home may look strong, but is it ready for India's changing climate?" The Wire, 30 July 2026.)
https://m.thewire.in/article/ptiprnews/your-home-may-look-strong-but-is-it-ready-for-indias-changing-climate

Faith-based leadership advances climate justice in Kerala
On 30 July, the World Council of Churches reported on a bishop in Kerala promoting climate justice through sustainable agriculture and community engagement. The initiative combines ecological stewardship with faith-based leadership by encouraging environmentally sustainable farming practices, biodiversity conservation and community awareness. Experts noted that religious institutions can play an influential role in mobilising communities and supporting grassroots climate action. Discussions highlighted the importance of linking environmental protection with social justice, particularly in communities facing increasing climate risks. Analysts argued that faith-based organisations can complement government policies by promoting behavioural change and local resilience. The report illustrates how climate action is increasingly engaging diverse sectors of society beyond traditional environmental institutions.
("In Kerala, a bishop cultivates climate justice at 6:30 am," World Council of Churches, 30 July 2026.)
https://www.oikoumene.org/news/in-kerala-a-bishop-cultivates-climate-justice-at-630-am

Assam floods reveal complex interplay of climate and environmental factors
On 28 July, The Indian Express explained that the devastating 2026 Assam floods resulted from a combination of extreme monsoon rainfall, river dynamics, upstream hydrological conditions and human-induced environmental changes. Although flooding remains a natural feature of the Brahmaputra basin, experts noted that climate change is increasing the frequency and intensity of extreme rainfall events, amplifying flood risks. Discussions highlighted the importance of integrated river basin management, improved forecasting systems, ecosystem restoration and climate-resilient infrastructure. Analysts argued that reducing long-term flood vulnerability requires combining engineering interventions with ecological conservation and sustainable land-use planning. The report illustrates how climate change is compounding existing environmental and governance challenges in one of India's most flood-prone regions.
("Explained: What caused Assam's 2026 floods?" The Indian Express, 28 July 2026.)
https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-climate/assam-floods-2026-causes-explained-10802845/

Changing climate threatens tea cultivation in the Nilgiris
On 26 July, The Print reported that shifting climatic conditions are increasingly affecting tea plantations in the Nilgiris, raising concerns over long-term agricultural sustainability. Industry experts noted that erratic rainfall, rising temperatures and changing weather patterns are altering crop productivity and increasing pest and disease pressures. Discussions focused on adopting climate-resilient cultivation techniques, improving water management and supporting research into heat- and drought-tolerant tea varieties. Analysts argued that climate change poses growing risks to one of India's economically significant plantation sectors, with potential implications for farmer incomes and rural employment. The report highlights the broader challenge of adapting traditional agricultural systems to increasingly unpredictable climatic conditions.

("Climate shift threatens Nilgiris tea plantations, says UPASI official," The Print, 26 July 2026.)
https://theprint.in/india/climate-shift-threatens-nilgiris-tea-plantations-says-upasi-official/2997762/

Assam floods illustrate the growing complexity of climate disasters

On 26 July, The Indian Express analysed the causes behind the 2026 Assam floods, explaining that the disaster resulted from the interaction of extreme monsoon rainfall, river dynamics, upstream hydrological conditions and human-induced environmental changes. While seasonal flooding is common in the Brahmaputra basin, experts noted that climate change is increasing the intensity and frequency of extreme rainfall events, amplifying flood risks. Discussions highlighted the need for integrated river basin management, ecosystem restoration, improved forecasting and climate-resilient infrastructure. Analysts argued that reducing flood vulnerability requires combining engineering interventions with ecological approaches and long-term land-use planning. The report demonstrates how climate change is compounding existing environmental and governance challenges across India's flood-prone regions.
("Explained: What caused Assam's 2026 floods?" The Indian Express, 26 July 2026.)
https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-climate/assam-floods-2026-causes-explained-10802845/

Higher sugarcane yields come with growing climate and water risks

On 23 July, Mongabay India reported that rising sugarcane productivity in semi-arid regions has been accompanied by increasing pressure on water resources and heightened climate vulnerability. The article noted that while improved farming practices and technological advancements have boosted yields, sugarcane remains a highly water-intensive crop at a time when rainfall variability and groundwater depletion are intensifying. Experts warned that climate change could further strain agricultural sustainability unless water-efficient cultivation methods and crop diversification are prioritised. Discussions focused on balancing farmer incomes with long-term resource conservation through climate-smart agricultural policies. Analysts argued that sustaining agricultural productivity will require integrating water governance with climate adaptation planning. The report highlights the growing challenge of reconciling food production with environmental sustainability under changing climatic conditions.
("Rising sugarcane yields coexist with climate, water risks in semi-arid India," Mongabay India, 23 July 2026.)
https://india.mongabay.com/2026/07/rising-sugarcane-yields-coexist-with-climate-water-risks-in-semi-arid-india/

India needs anticipatory rather than reactive climate adaptation

On 23 July, Hindustan Times argued that India's climate response must shift from reactive disaster management towards anticipatory adaptation based on scientific forecasting. The editorial highlighted that increasingly erratic monsoons, extreme rainfall and prolonged dry spells are challenging traditional agricultural planning and exposing farmers to greater uncertainty. Experts emphasised the importance of improving weather forecasting, climate-informed agricultural advisories and flexible policymaking that can respond to evolving climate risks. Discussions focused on strengthening institutional coordination between meteorological agencies, agricultural departments and local governments. Analysts argued that adaptive governance, rather than crisis-driven interventions, will be essential for protecting food security and rural livelihoods. The article reflects growing recognition that climate resilience depends on integrating scientific knowledge into everyday policy decisions.
("India needs adaptability, not reactive climate action," Hindustan Times, 23 July 2026.)
https://www.hindustantimes.com/opinion/india-needs-adaptability-not-reactive-climate-action-imd-agriculture-rainfall-monsoon-kharif-news-101784738531157.html

Environmental CSR spending overlooks India's most climate-vulnerable regions

On 23 July, ANI reported that Indian companies have deployed nearly ₹17,000 crore through environmental Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives over the past decade, yet many highly climate-vulnerable regions remain underfunded. The report noted that CSR investments have often concentrated on afforestation, sanitation and renewable energy projects, while communities facing severe climate impacts continue to receive limited financial support. Experts argued that aligning CSR investments with climate vulnerability assessments could improve adaptation outcomes and reduce regional inequalities. Discussions focused on encouraging private-sector participation in resilience-building, disaster preparedness and sustainable development. Analysts observed that targeted climate investments can complement public spending and strengthen local adaptive capacity. The findings highlight the need for more strategic allocation of corporate environmental finance.
("Environmental CSR in India: Rs 17,000 crore deployed over a decade, but climate-vulnerable regions remain underfunded," ANI, 23 July 2026.)
https://www.aninews.in/news/business/environmental-csr-in-india-rs-17000-crore-deployed-over-a-decade-but-climate-vulnerable-regions-remain-underfunded20260723102024

India set for its first and largest grid-scale Vanadium Redox Flow Battery (VRFB) project in a move towards clean energy transition

On 21 July, SolarQuarter reported that Bondada Engineering Limited secured a Notification of Award (NoA) from NTPC Renewable Energy Limited to develop a 100 MWh Vanadium Redox Flow Battery Energy Storage System (VRFB BESS). The project will be built at Khavda Solar Park in Gujarat. The project has been awarded under an Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) contract. Bondada Engineering will design, supply, install, test, and commission the system, and provide operation and maintenance (O&M) services for ten years. It is scheduled for completion within ten months. Delectrik Systems Pvt. Ltd. will serve as the technology partner. The company said this will be the country's first and largest grid-scale VRFB project. Unlike Lithium Iron Phosphate (LFP) batteries, which typically last 12 to 15 years and rely heavily on imported cells, VRFB systems can operate for over 25 years with minimal degradation. The project supports the country's plan to deploy nearly 236 GWh of battery storage capacity by 2030, up from around 3.3 GWh currently installed.
("Bondada Engineering Wins NTPC REL Order For India's Largest 100 MWh Vanadium Flow Battery Project," SolarQuarter, 21 July 2026.)
https://solarquarter.com/2026/07/21/bondada-engineering-wins-ntpc-rel-order-for-indias-largest-100-mwh-vanadium-flow-battery-project/

SECI awards 1,344 MW of pumped storage capacity to Greenko, Tata Power and Torrent to advance long-duration energy storage and renewable energy integration

On 21 July, SolarQuarter reported that the Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI) announced final results of its tender for developing Pumped Storage Plants (PSPs), aimed at establishing 1,500 MW/12,000 MWh of capacity nationwide. Three companies bid for a combined capacity of 1,680 MW. Greenko Energies offered 720 MW, Tata Power offered 660 MW, and Torrent Energy Storage Solutions offered 300 MW. Since the maximum awardable capacity was capped at 1,344 MW, an electronic reverse auction was held on 9 July. Greenko secured its full 720 MW at a final storage cost of INR 1,34,90,000 per MW annually. Torrent received its full 300 MW allocation, while Tata Power was awarded a partial 324 MW against its original 660 MW bid. SECI issued Letters of Award to the successful developers on 17 July, supporting the country's push to expand long-duration energy storage and integrate renewables into the grid.
("SECI Awards 1,344 MW Pumped Storage Capacity To Greenko, Tata Power, And Torrent After Competitive Auction," SolarQuarter, 21 July 2026.)

https://solarquarter.com/2026/07/21/seci-awards-1344-mw-pumped-storage-capacity-to-greenko-tata-power-and-torrent-after-competitive-auction/

Himachal Pradesh's power revenue at risk as Sutlej basin glaciers keep shrinking

On 21 July, The Tribune reported that according to a climate change study by the State Centre on Climate Change (SCCC) for Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited (SJVNL), the rapid retreat of glaciers across the Sutlej basin could seriously threaten Himachal Pradesh's hydropower sector, one of the state's largest revenue sources. Analysing data from 2010 to 2020, the study found consistent glacier decline across the Spiti, Baspa, Upper Satluj, and Lower Satluj sub-basins, with no sub-basin unaffected. Glacier cover in the Sutlej basin shrank from 1,481.75 square kilometres in 2000 to 1,384.16 square kilometres in 2020. More than 80 per cent of glaciers are retreating at under ten metres annually. Since most hydropower projects rely on glacier-fed rivers, this threatens power generation, water security, and disaster resilience. The study recommends stronger glacier monitoring, improved forecasting, and climate-resilient adaptation strategies to protect future hydropower production.
("Melting glaciers threaten Himachal's hydropower lifeline," The Tribune, 21 July 2026.)
https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/himachal/melting-glaciers-threaten-himachals-hydropower-lifeline/

Nagaland landslide leaves nine dead as extreme rainfall triggers disaster across multiple districts

On 20 July, Down To Earth reported that at least nine people were killed after a landslide struck multiple locations in Nagaland's Mon district due to intense rainfall. Rescue operations are continuing, and authorities warn heavy rain is likely to persist for two to three days. The Joint Chief Executive Officer of the Nagaland State Disaster Management Authority (NSDMA) stated thatfive people were injured and undergoing treatment. He said the landslide affected more than ten locations, and the extent of house damage is still being assessed. The officer attributed the landslide to a cloudburst linked to an extreme weather event. Officials from the Meteorological Centre, Kohima, said Mon district recorded 137 millimetres of rainfall, caused by an upper cyclonic circulation over central Assam and adjoining Nagaland. The NSDMA said continuous rain has also triggered landslides and floods across Tuensang, Zunheboto, Shamator, and several other districts. In Tuensang alone, 22 houses were completely damaged and 25 partially damaged.
("Nine dead, five injured in landslide triggered by extreme weather in Nagaland, say officials," Down To Earth, 20 July 2026.)
https://www.downtoearth.org.in/climate-change/nine-dead-five-injured-in-landslide-triggered-by-extreme-weather-in-nagaland-say-officials

Arunachal Pradesh's Dibang Valley records no rainfall for nearly 50 days, raises concerns over accuracy of weather monitoring

On 20 July, Down To Earth reported that Arunachal Pradesh's Dibang Valley has been shown as receiving no rainfall between 1 June and 19 July on the India Meteorological Department (IMD) website, despite the district usually receiving more than 631 millimetres of rain during the same period. The anomaly has raised concerns over the accuracy of weather monitoring in the remote Himalayan district. Local officials said the district has experienced rainfall, although it has been below normal. The Head of the State Meteorological Centre in Itanagar said Dibang Valley's only automatic weather station is currently non-functional because of technical problems, resulting in missing rainfall measurements. Efforts are under way to repair the station. The discrepancy highlights the challenges of maintaining reliable weather monitoring systems in remote border regions, where accurate rainfall data is essential for disaster preparedness, agriculture and climate assessments.
("A monsoon mystery in Arunachal: Dibang Valley shows no rain for nearly 50 days," Down To Earth, 20 July 2026.)
https://www.downtoearth.org.in/climate-

change/a-monsoon-mystery-in-arunachal-dibang-valley-shows-no-rain-for-nearly-50-days

SECI invites bids for a 45.6 MW wind project in Andhra Pradesh as part of broader efforts toward reliable renewable power

On 20 July, Saur Energy reported that the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) has floated an engineering, procurement and construction tender for a 45.6 megawatt (MW) wind power project under its 50 MW Firm and Dispatchable Renewable Energy (FDRE) project in Andhra Pradesh. The project forms part of SECI's broader effort to deliver reliable renewable power by combining wind, solar and energy storage. The selected contractor will be responsible for the design, engineering, supply, construction, testing, commissioning and operation and maintenance of the wind project. The wind facility is the second package of the FDRE project, while the first package comprises a 70 MW solar power plant integrated with a 25 MW and 50 MW-hour battery energy storage system. SECI expects the project to strengthen grid reliability and support India's transition towards round-the-clock renewable electricity through integrated clean energy infrastructure.

("SECI floats EPC tender for 45.6 MW wind project under 50 MW FDRE project," Saur Energy, 20 July 2026.)
https://www.saurenergy.com/solar-energy-news/seci-floats-epc-tender-for-456-mw-wind-project-under-50-mw-fdre-project-12180283

India's renewable energy capacity reaches 219 gigawatts reflecting the shift towards clean energy

On 18 July, SolarQuarter reported that solar and wind power accounted for 92.8 per cent of India's installed renewable energy capacity, reaching around 219 gigawatts excluding large hydro during the first half of 2026. This reflects the country's shift towards clean energy. Solar remained the largest contributor with around 162 gigawatts, while the wind power contributed approximately 55 gigawatts. The report said Gujrat led the country in combined solar and wind capacity with more than 59 gigawatts, followed closely by Rajasthan with nearly 49 gigawatts. Together they account for 45 per cent of India's total installed capacity. Maharashtra ranks third, followed closely by Tamil Naidu. The growth has been driven by large utility-scale solar parks, expanding rooftop solar installations, and supportive government policies promoting renewable energy. The continued expansion strengthens India's energy security, supports its climate commitments, and reinforces its position as one of the world's fastest-growing renewable energy markets. The trend also highlights the increasing role of renewable energy in meeting rising electricity demand while reducing dependence on fossil fuels.

("Solar and wind account for 92.8 per cent of India's renewable energy capacity, reach 219 GW in H1 2026," SolarQuarter, 18 July 2026.)
https://solarquarter.com/2026/07/18/solar-and-wind-account-for-92-8-of-indias-renewable-energy-capacity-reach-219-gw-in-h1-2026/

Opinion says climate change is reshaping faith, culture and tourism in the Himalayas

On 20 July, Down To Earth published an opinion article arguing that climate change is increasingly affecting religious traditions, tourism and livelihoods across the Himalayas. The article cited the rapid melting of the Amarnath cave's ice formation, glacier retreat, erratic weather patterns and more frequent landslides as evidence that rising temperatures are transforming the region. It argued that these changes are disrupting pilgrimage practices, threatening tourism-dependent communities and altering long-standing cultural traditions. The article stated that climate impacts extend beyond environmental damage to affect local economies and social life. It called for stronger climate adaptation measures, improved disaster preparedness and sustainable tourism policies to protect vulnerable mountain communities. The analysis concluded that preserving the Himalayas requires coordinated action to

address both climate risks and the socio-cultural consequences of environmental change.
("Melting ground: How climate change reshapes faith, culture and tourism in the Himalayas," Down To Earth, 20 July 2026.) https://www.downtoearth.org.in/climate-change/melting-ground-how-climate-change-reshapes-faith-culture-and-tourism-in-the-himalayas

Opinion highlights sea levels along India's coast could rise by about 24.1 cm by the middle of the century, increasing flooding and cyclone risks

On 18 July, The Pioneer published an opinion article arguing that extreme weather events are becoming a recurring reality because of climate change and environmental degradation. The article cited recent floods, heatwaves, cyclones and glacial disasters as evidence that events once considered unprecedented are now occurring with increasing frequency. It referred to projections that Arctic summer sea ice could largely disappear by the end of this century, while sea levels along India's coast could rise by about 24.1 centimetres by the middle of the century, increasing the risk of coastal flooding and cyclones. The article argued that human activities, including deforestation, industrialisation and excessive greenhouse gas emissions, have intensified climate risks. It called for stronger disaster preparedness, sustainable development and greater environmental responsibility. The commentary concluded that governments and societies must treat climate change as an immediate challenge rather than a future threat and strengthen resilience against increasingly frequent extreme weather events.
("When the unprecedented becomes routine," The Pioneer, 18 July 2026.) https://dailypioneer.com/news/when-the-unprecedented-becomes-routine

Historical account links extreme heat to India's colonial past

On 10 July, Down To Earth revisited the devastating heat conditions experienced during the 1857 uprising, drawing parallels with Europe's 2026 heatwave and highlighting how extreme temperatures have long shaped historical events. The article argued that severe heat nearly altered the course of British military operations in Delhi, demonstrating that climate has historically influenced political and military outcomes. Experts noted that today's intensifying heatwaves, driven by anthropogenic climate change, are likely to produce even greater societal impacts than those recorded in the nineteenth century. Discussions focused on the increasing frequency of extreme heat events and their implications for public health, labour productivity and urban resilience. Analysts argued that understanding historical climate events provides valuable context for preparing societies against future extremes. The commentary illustrates how climate change is reshaping both historical interpretation and contemporary policy debates.
("Nearly 169 years earlier from Europe's 2026 heatwave, the British nearly lost India to heat on Delhi's Ridge," Down To Earth, 10 July 2026.) https://www.downtoearth.org.in/story/climate-change/nearly-169-years-earlier-from-europes-2026-heatwave-the-british-nearly-lost-india-to-heat-on-delhis-ridge

Erratic monsoon reflects India's changing climate reality

On 10 July, Mint analysed how the 2026 southwest monsoon is increasingly reflecting broader climate change trends rather than traditional seasonal variability alone. Experts noted that the interaction between El Niño and long-term global warming is producing more uneven rainfall, prolonged dry spells and intense precipitation events across different parts of India. The report highlighted growing concerns over impacts on agriculture, water resources, food security and rural livelihoods. Discussions focused on strengthening climate forecasting, improving irrigation management and promoting climate-resilient farming practices. Analysts argued that India's adaptation strategies must increasingly account for unpredictable rainfall patterns rather than relying on historical monsoon behaviour. The article reflects growing scientific consensus that climate change is

fundamentally altering one of South Asia's most important weather systems.
("India Monsoon 2026: El Niño, rainfall deficit and climate change," Mint, 10 July 2026.)
https://www.livemint.com/newsletters/climate-change-and-you/india-monsoon-2026-el-nino-rainfall-deficit-climate-change/amp-11783684412238.html

Editorial warns today's youth face unprecedented climate risks

On 10 July, Deccan Herald published an editorial arguing that younger generations will bear the greatest consequences of climate change unless governments accelerate adaptation and emissions reduction efforts. The article highlighted that children and young people are increasingly exposed to extreme heat, air pollution, floods, food insecurity and climate-related disruptions to education and livelihoods. Experts stressed that climate policy should prioritise long-term resilience and intergenerational equity alongside economic development. Discussions focused on strengthening climate education, public health systems and social protection measures to reduce future vulnerabilities. Analysts argued that protecting younger generations requires immediate policy action rather than incremental responses to climate risks. The editorial reflects growing international recognition that climate change has become a defining challenge for future generations.
("A generation at climate risk," Deccan Herald, 10 July 2026.)
https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/editorial/a-generation-at-climate-risk-4069595

Renewable energy transition central to India's climate resilience

On 10 July, The Pioneer highlighted renewable energy as a cornerstone of India's long-term climate resilience strategy. The article argued that expanding solar, wind and other clean energy sources will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions while strengthening energy security and supporting sustainable economic growth. Experts noted that accelerating the clean energy transition can also reduce dependence on fossil fuel imports and improve resilience against climate-related disruptions. Discussions focused on policy support, infrastructure investment and technological innovation needed to achieve India's renewable energy targets. Analysts observed that balancing rising energy demand with climate commitments will remain one of India's key policy challenges over the coming decade. The report reflects the country's continued emphasis on linking economic development with low-carbon growth.
("Renewable energy transition for a climate-resilient India," The Pioneer, 10 July 2026.)
https://dailypioneer.com/news/slug-lite/renewable-energy-transition-for-a-climate-resilient-india?year=2026

India and Germany highlight women's role in clean energy transition

On 10 July, Saur Energy International reported that India and Germany emphasised the importance of women's participation during bilateral climate discussions on clean energy and sustainable development. Officials highlighted that greater inclusion of women in renewable energy, green technology and climate policymaking can improve innovation, strengthen local implementation and promote more equitable energy transitions. Experts noted that gender-responsive approaches have become increasingly important within international climate governance and sustainable development frameworks. Discussions focused on expanding women's leadership, technical training and employment opportunities in the clean energy sector. Analysts argued that achieving an inclusive energy transition will require removing institutional and social barriers that limit women's participation. The dialogue reflects the growing recognition that gender equality is integral to effective climate action.
("India-Germany climate talks highlight women's role in clean energy transition," Saur Energy International, 10 July 2026.)
https://www.saurenergy.com/solar-energy-news/india-germany-climate-talks-highlight-womens-role-in-clean-energy-transition-12150935

Experts warn India's heatwave deaths may be significantly undercounted

On 07 July, The Indian Express examined concerns that the true human cost of India's increasingly severe heatwaves may be substantially underestimated. Experts noted that many heat-related deaths are not officially recorded because fatalities are often attributed to underlying illnesses rather than extreme temperatures. The report highlighted that climate change is increasing the frequency, duration and intensity of heatwaves across the country, creating mounting public health challenges. Discussions focused on improving mortality surveillance, strengthening early-warning systems and expanding heat action plans to better protect vulnerable populations. Analysts argued that more accurate reporting is essential for designing effective adaptation strategies and allocating healthcare resources. The article reflects growing recognition that extreme heat has become one of India's deadliest climate hazards, requiring stronger public health preparedness and more robust climate governance.

("Explained: Why India's heatwave deaths may be undercounted," The Indian Express, 07 July 2026.)
https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-climate/india-heatwave-deaths-undercounted-10774240/lite/

Gram Panchayats urged to develop local climate action plans

On 07 July, Hindustan Times argued that India's Gram Panchayats should play a greater role in addressing climate change through locally tailored climate action plans. The commentary noted that village-level institutions are well positioned to respond to local environmental challenges including water scarcity, heat stress, flooding and land degradation. Experts highlighted that decentralised planning can improve adaptation by incorporating local knowledge and community participation into decision-making. Discussions focused on integrating climate resilience into rural development programmes, natural resource management and local governance frameworks. Analysts argued that empowering local governments will be essential for translating India's national climate commitments into practical action on the ground. The article reflects the growing recognition that effective climate governance requires strong local institutions alongside national policy initiatives.

("India's Gram Panchayats need climate plans," Hindustan Times, 07 July 2026.)
https://www.hindustantimes.com/ht-insight/climate-change/indias-gram-panchayats-need-climate-plans-101783342300474-amp.html

Erratic monsoon raises concerns over India's climate future

On 02 July, The Times of India reported growing concerns over India's increasingly erratic monsoon after the country experienced one of its driest spells in recent years. The report highlighted how changing rainfall patterns are affecting agriculture, water availability, food security and disaster preparedness across several states. Experts linked the unusual weather conditions to broader climate change trends that are altering the behaviour of the Indian summer monsoon. Discussions focused on strengthening climate forecasting, improving water-resource management and expanding climate-resilient agricultural practices. Analysts noted that unpredictable rainfall creates significant uncertainty for farmers and increases economic vulnerability. The report also highlighted government efforts to strengthen preparedness and response mechanisms. The article reflects growing scientific concern that climate change is reshaping South Asia's most important weather system, with long-term implications for livelihoods, agriculture and national development.

("India's climate emergency: Shah steps in as India records driest spells on record," The Times of India, 02 July 2026.)
https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/indias-climate-emergency_-shah-steps-in-as-india-records-driest-spells-on-record-watch/amp_videoshow/132175280.cms

Commentary calls for a new narrative in India's climate debate

On 02 July, The Telegraph argued that India's climate discourse requires a broader and more inclusive narrative extending beyond greenhouse gas mitigation alone. The commentary suggested that climate policy should better incorporate adaptation, resilience, environmental justice and community participation alongside emission reduction targets. Experts noted that while reducing emissions remains essential, India's climate strategy must also respond to increasing heatwaves, water stress, biodiversity loss and livelihood challenges affecting millions of people. Discussions focused on integrating social equity and developmental priorities into climate policymaking. Analysts argued that effective climate communication should resonate with local realities while encouraging behavioural change and policy reforms. The article reflects wider debates on balancing India's global climate commitments with domestic development priorities and ensuring that climate policies remain socially inclusive and locally relevant.

("Beyond the Beyoncé of greenhouse gases: Why India's climate anthem needs a new soundtrack," The Telegraph, 02 July 2026.)
https://www.telegraphindia.com/amp/india/beyond-the-beyonce-of-greenhouse-gases-why-indias-climate-anthem-needs-a-new-soundtrack/cid/2168580

NEPAL

Nepal advances community-based climate adaptation initiatives

On 30 July, The Rising Nepal reported that Nepal continues to strengthen community-based climate adaptation efforts as climate-related disasters become more frequent across the Himalayan nation. Officials highlighted programmes aimed at improving disaster preparedness, ecosystem conservation and local resilience against floods, landslides and changing weather patterns. Experts noted that empowering local communities and integrating indigenous knowledge with scientific approaches can significantly improve adaptation outcomes. Discussions focused on strengthening institutional coordination, expanding climate finance and promoting sustainable development at the local level. Analysts argued that community-led adaptation will remain essential for reducing Nepal's vulnerability to climate change while supporting long-term environmental sustainability. The report reflects the country's continued emphasis on locally driven climate resilience.

("Community-based climate adaptation gains momentum," The Rising Nepal, 30 July 2026.)
https://risingnepaldaily.com/news/84239

Opinion urges Nepal to build stronger climate institutions

On 30 July, Nepal News published an opinion arguing that Nepal must strengthen its institutional capacity to effectively address accelerating climate risks. The article highlighted that increasingly frequent floods, landslides, glacier retreat and extreme weather require coordinated governance supported by capable public institutions rather than fragmented policy interventions. Experts stressed improving coordination between federal, provincial and local governments while strengthening technical expertise, scientific decision-making and climate finance management. Discussions also focused on embedding climate resilience into long-term national development planning. Analysts argued that durable institutions are essential for ensuring continuity in climate policy implementation despite political transitions. The commentary reflects growing recognition that effective climate governance depends on strong institutions as much as ambitious climate policies.

("Time to build institutions for climate action," Nepal News, 30 July 2026.)
https://english.nepalnews.com/s/opinion/time-to-build-institutions-for-climate-action/

Opinion calls for stronger climate institutions in Nepal

On 29 July, Nepal News published an opinion arguing that Nepal must strengthen its institutional framework if it is to effectively respond to the growing impacts of climate change. The article noted that

increasingly frequent floods, landslides, glacier retreat and extreme weather events require coordinated governance supported by capable public institutions rather than fragmented policy responses. Experts stressed the need to improve coordination across federal, provincial and local governments while strengthening technical expertise, climate finance management and scientific decision-making. Discussions also highlighted the importance of integrating climate resilience into long-term national development planning. Analysts argued that durable institutions are fundamental for implementing adaptation policies and ensuring continuity despite political changes. The commentary reflects growing recognition that effective climate governance depends as much on institutional capacity as on policy ambition.
("Time to build institutions for climate action," Nepal News, 29 July 2026.)
https://english.nepalnews.com/s/opinion/time-to-build-institutions-for-climate-action/

Nepal and Canada deepen cooperation on clean energy and climate action
On 28 July, Nepal News reported that Nepal and Canada agreed to expand bilateral cooperation in clean energy, trade and climate action during their Fourth Bilateral Consultations. Officials reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening collaboration on renewable energy, sustainable development, climate resilience and environmental governance. Discussions also covered opportunities for technical cooperation, capacity building and investment to support Nepal's transition towards a low-carbon economy. Experts noted that international partnerships play an increasingly important role in helping Himalayan countries address glacier retreat, water security and climate adaptation challenges. Analysts argued that enhanced cooperation with Canada could strengthen Nepal's institutional capacity while improving access to climate finance and green technologies. The meeting reflects Nepal's continued efforts to integrate climate diplomacy into its broader foreign policy and sustainable development agenda.
("Nepal and Canada pledge deeper ties across clean energy, trade and climate action at 4th bilateral talks," Nepal News, 28 July 2026.)
https://english.nepalnews.com/s/diplomacy/nepal-and-canada-pledge-deeper-ties-across-clean-energy-trade-and-climate-action-at-4th-bilateral-talks/

Nepal urged to transform climate crisis into green growth opportunity
On 24 July, Climate Watch reported growing calls for Nepal to treat climate change not only as an environmental challenge but also as an opportunity to promote sustainable economic growth. Experts highlighted the country's significant potential in renewable energy, sustainable tourism, climate-smart agriculture and green industries. Discussions focused on attracting climate finance, encouraging private-sector investment and strengthening green employment opportunities while improving resilience to climate impacts. Analysts argued that integrating climate adaptation with economic planning could support long-term development while reducing environmental vulnerabilities. The article reflects increasing recognition that green growth strategies can simultaneously address climate risks, economic diversification and sustainable livelihoods in Nepal.
("Nepal urged to turn climate crisis into green growth opportunity," Climate Watch, 24 July 2026.)
https://theclimatewatch.com/nepal-urged-to-turn-climate-crisis-into-green-growth-opportunity/

Experts call for stronger climate governance in Nepal
On 24 July, Nepal Khabar reported renewed calls for Nepal to strengthen climate governance as the country faces increasing impacts from glacier retreat, extreme rainfall, floods and landslides. Experts stressed that effective adaptation requires stronger coordination between federal, provincial and local governments alongside greater investment in scientific research and early warning systems. Discussions focused on integrating climate resilience into infrastructure planning, agriculture and

disaster risk management. Analysts argued that institutional reforms and improved implementation capacity will be essential for translating climate policies into measurable outcomes. The report reflects ongoing debates over strengthening Nepal's governance framework to better respond to growing climate risks.
("Nepal strengthens focus on climate governance," Nepal Khabar, 24 July 2026.)
https://en.nepalkhabar.com/news/detail/18906/

Questions remain over climate finance reaching local communities
On 24 July, Dialogue Earth examined whether international climate finance is effectively reaching local and Indigenous communities in Nepal. The report noted that although climate funding has increased, many grassroots organisations continue to face barriers in accessing resources because of complex funding mechanisms and institutional constraints. Experts argued that locally led adaptation often delivers more sustainable and equitable outcomes but remains underfunded compared with larger national projects. Discussions focused on improving transparency, simplifying funding procedures and strengthening community participation in climate decision-making. Analysts observed that directing more climate finance to local actors will be essential for building resilience in Nepal's most vulnerable mountain and rural communities. The article highlights the growing global debate over equitable distribution of climate finance.
("Is climate finance reaching local and Indigenous communities in Nepal?" Dialogue Earth, 24 July 2026.)
https://dialogue.earth/en/climate/is-climate-finance-reaching-local-and-indigenous-communities-in-nepal/

Climate disasters disproportionately affect sexual and gender minorities
On 23 July, Nepal News reported that climate-induced disasters are intensifying the daily challenges faced by sexual and gender minorities in Nepal. The feature highlighted that floods, landslides and extreme weather events often exacerbate existing social exclusion by limiting access to shelters, healthcare, livelihoods and humanitarian assistance. Experts stressed that climate adaptation and disaster response policies should incorporate inclusive planning to ensure that vulnerable communities are not overlooked during emergencies. Discussions focused on improving social protection, disaster preparedness and equitable access to relief services. Analysts argued that climate resilience depends not only on infrastructure but also on recognising the diverse vulnerabilities that exist within society. The article underscores the importance of integrating social inclusion into climate governance and adaptation planning.
("Climate disasters magnify the daily struggles of sexual and gender minorities," Nepal News, 23 July 2026.)
https://english.nepalnews.com/s/feature/climate-disasters-magnify-the-daily-struggles-of-sexual-and-gender-minorities/

Nepal gains stronger access to global climate adaptation finance
On 23 July, EnviroNews Nigeria reported that the Adaptation Fund has accredited a new national implementing entity in Nepal while also re-accrediting UNESCO for project implementation. The accreditation enables Nepal to directly access international climate adaptation financing for projects aimed at strengthening resilience against climate impacts. Experts noted that direct access mechanisms enhance national ownership of climate programmes and improve the efficiency of adaptation investments. Discussions focused on supporting vulnerable communities through climate-resilient infrastructure, ecosystem restoration and disaster risk reduction initiatives. Analysts argued that expanding access to international climate finance will strengthen Nepal's ability to address increasing risks from glacier retreat, floods and changing weather patterns. The decision represents an important step in enhancing Nepal's institutional capacity for climate adaptation.
("Adaptation Fund accredits new national entities in Mexico, Nepal; re-accredits

UNESCO," EnviroNews Nigeria, 23 July 2026.)
https://www.environewsnigeria.com/adaptation-fund-accredits-new-national-entities-in-mexico-nepal-re-accredits-unesco/

Experts call for sustainable heatwave forecasting systems
On 23 July, Nepal News reported growing calls for Nepal to establish sustainable heatwave forecasting systems as rising temperatures increasingly threaten public health and livelihoods. Experts highlighted that climate change is contributing to more frequent and intense heatwaves, particularly in the country's southern plains. Discussions focused on strengthening early warning systems, improving coordination between meteorological agencies and health authorities, and expanding public awareness campaigns. Analysts argued that reliable forecasting and timely communication can significantly reduce heat-related illnesses and improve disaster preparedness. The report emphasised that long-term investment in climate services will become increasingly important as extreme heat emerges as a recurring climate hazard. The article reflects Nepal's evolving approach to climate adaptation and public health resilience.
("Heat wave forecasting should be made sustainable," Nepal News, 23 July 2026.)
https://english.nepalnews.com/s/climate/heat-wave-forecasting-should-be-made-sustainable/

Political leaders promote climate awareness through Green Run initiative
On 21 July, Nepal News reported that the Nepali Congress organised a "Green Run" in Kathmandu to raise public awareness about climate change and environmental conservation. The event brought together political leaders, youth, civil society and community members to highlight the growing urgency of climate action. Discussions focused on promoting sustainable lifestyles, environmental responsibility and greater public participation in addressing climate challenges. Experts noted that awareness campaigns can complement policy measures by encouraging behavioural change and strengthening public engagement. Analysts argued that sustained climate communication is essential for building broader societal support for adaptation and mitigation initiatives. The event reflects Nepal's increasing emphasis on involving citizens and political institutions in advancing climate awareness.
("Nepali Congress organizes Green Run in Kathmandu for climate awareness," Nepal News, 21 July 2026.)
https://english.nepalnews.com/s/climate/nepali-congress-organizes-green-run-in-kathmandu-for-climate-awareness/

Opinion urges Nepal to place climate at the centre of policymaking
On 21 July, Nepal News published an opinion article arguing that climate change should become a central consideration across all areas of national policymaking rather than remaining confined to environmental ministries. The commentary highlighted the increasing impacts of glacier retreat, erratic rainfall, floods, landslides and extreme weather on Nepal's economy, infrastructure and communities. Experts stressed that climate resilience must be integrated into agriculture, energy, transport, health and urban planning to reduce long-term vulnerability. Discussions focused on strengthening institutional coordination, increasing climate finance and embedding scientific evidence into public policy decisions. Analysts argued that mainstreaming climate considerations across government will improve resilience while supporting sustainable development objectives. The article reflects growing calls for whole-of-government approaches to climate governance in Nepal.
("Time to put climate at the center of policymaking," Nepal News, 21 July 2026.)
https://english.nepalnews.com/s/opinion/time-to-put-climate-at-the-center-of-policymaking/

Nepal urged to look beyond hydropower for climate resilience
On 12 July, Nepali Times argued that Nepal's long-term development strategy should extend beyond expanding hydropower generation and place greater

emphasis on climate resilience and economic diversification. The article noted that while hydropower remains central to Nepal's economy, increasing climate variability, glacier retreat and changing river flows pose growing risks to future energy security. Experts stressed that development planning should also prioritise ecosystem conservation, resilient infrastructure, water governance and diversified green economic opportunities. Discussions highlighted the importance of integrating climate adaptation into broader national planning rather than relying solely on energy exports. Analysts argued that Nepal's climate resilience will depend on adopting a more balanced development model capable of responding to future environmental uncertainties. The commentary reflects growing debates on sustainable development pathways in Himalayan countries.
("Nepal has to plan beyond megawatts," Nepali Times, 13 July 2026.)
https://nepalitimes.com/nepal-has-to-plan-beyond-megawatts

Opinion calls for urgent climate action in Nepal
On 13 July, Nepal News published an opinion article warning that climate change is rapidly threatening Nepal's environmental security, economic development and future generations. The commentary highlighted accelerating glacier retreat, erratic rainfall, floods, landslides and biodiversity loss as evidence that climate risks are intensifying across the Himalayan region. Experts argued that delaying climate action will significantly increase future adaptation costs while exposing communities to greater environmental and economic losses. Discussions focused on strengthening climate governance, expanding local adaptation initiatives and integrating resilience into national development planning. Analysts stressed that greater public awareness, scientific planning and international cooperation will be essential for addressing Nepal's growing climate challenges. The article reinforces calls for immediate policy action to strengthen long-term resilience.
("Act now: Climate change is destroying our future," Nepal News, 13 July 2026.)
https://english.nepalnews.com/s/opinion/act-now-climate-change-is-destroying-our-future/

Opinion urges urgent action against accelerating climate change
On 10 July, Nepal News published an opinion article warning that climate change is increasingly threatening Nepal's environmental security, economic development and the wellbeing of future generations. The commentary highlighted growing evidence of glacier retreat, changing rainfall patterns, floods, landslides and biodiversity loss affecting communities across the Himalayan region. Experts argued that delayed action will substantially increase adaptation costs and deepen social and economic vulnerabilities. Discussions focused on strengthening climate governance, expanding community-based adaptation and integrating resilience into national development planning. Analysts stressed that climate action must become a whole-of-government priority supported by greater public awareness and international cooperation. The article reflects growing concern that Nepal's climate challenges require immediate and sustained policy attention.
("Act now: Climate change is destroying our future," Nepal News, 10 July 2026.)
https://english.nepalnews.com/s/opinion/act-now-climate-change-is-destroying-our-future/

UNESCO supports Himalayan communities adapting to climate change
On 10 July, UNESCO reported new initiatives supporting communities in Nepal's Khumbu region to strengthen resilience against the impacts of climate change. The programme focuses on improving local knowledge, preserving cultural heritage and enhancing community capacity to respond to glacier retreat, changing weather patterns and increasing disaster risks. Experts noted that Himalayan communities face disproportionate climate impacts despite contributing minimally to global greenhouse gas emissions. Discussions highlighted the importance of

combining scientific research with indigenous knowledge to develop locally appropriate adaptation strategies. Analysts argued that community-led resilience programmes strengthen both environmental sustainability and cultural preservation. The initiative reflects UNESCO's broader efforts to promote climate adaptation while protecting vulnerable mountain ecosystems and communities.
("UNESCO helps communities in the Khumbu region build a foundation for adapting to a changing climate," UNESCO, 10 July 2026.)
https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/unesco-helps-communities-khumbu-region-build-foundation-adapting-changing-climate-nepal

Experts urge stronger investment in climate adaptation
On 09 July, The Annapurna Express highlighted growing calls for Nepal to accelerate investments in climate adaptation as environmental risks continue to intensify across the Himalayan region. Experts warned that glacier retreat, changing rainfall patterns, floods and landslides are increasing pressure on communities, infrastructure and natural ecosystems. Discussions focused on improving disaster preparedness, strengthening local adaptation programmes and expanding climate-resilient infrastructure. Policymakers also stressed the importance of international climate finance and scientific cooperation to address the country's growing vulnerability. Analysts argued that climate adaptation should become a central pillar of Nepal's long-term development planning to minimise future economic and social losses. The article reflects increasing recognition that proactive resilience-building is more cost-effective than responding to disasters after they occur.
("Nepal urged to strengthen climate adaptation efforts," The Annapurna Express, 09 July 2026.)
https://theannapurnaexpress.com/story/65469/

Nepal's students develop country's first school carbon footprint calculator
On 08 July, UNESCO reported that students in Nepal have developed the country's first youth-designed school carbon footprint calculator, enabling educational institutions to better measure and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. The initiative encourages schools to assess emissions from energy use, transport, waste management and daily operations while promoting environmental awareness among students. Experts noted that involving young people in climate monitoring helps strengthen climate literacy and encourages behavioural change from an early age. Discussions focused on integrating climate education with practical sustainability initiatives that empower students to become active participants in environmental action. Analysts argued that locally developed tools such as this calculator can help schools contribute to national climate goals while building future climate leadership. The initiative reflects Nepal's growing emphasis on youth-led innovation in climate education.
("Nepal's first youth-designed school carbon footprint calculator built," UNESCO, 08 July 2026.)
https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/nepals-first-youth-designed-school-carbon-footprint-calculator-built

Strong El Niño raises concerns over Nepal's weak monsoon
On 05 July, Everest Chronicle reported that the emergence of a strong El Niño is expected to weaken the South Asian monsoon, raising concerns for Nepal's agriculture, water resources and disaster preparedness. Experts warned that below-normal rainfall could reduce crop yields, increase drought risks and place additional pressure on hydropower generation and drinking water supplies. While some regions may experience prolonged dry spells, others could witness intense rainfall events capable of triggering floods and landslides. Discussions focused on improving seasonal forecasting, strengthening climate adaptation strategies and enhancing early-warning systems. Analysts noted that Nepal's dependence on

monsoon rainfall makes it particularly vulnerable to climate variability associated with global warming. The report reflects growing scientific concern that changing climate patterns are making Himalayan weather increasingly unpredictable and difficult to manage.
("Strong El Niño threatens Southeast Asia; Nepal braces for weak monsoon," Everest Chronicle, 05 July 2026.)
https://everestchronicle.com/strong-el-nino-threatens-southeast-asia-nepal-braces-for-weak-monsoon

Nepal develops climate-resilient health infrastructure guidelines
On 05 July, the World Health Organization (WHO) Nepal reported that government officials and health experts convened a workshop to finalise national guidelines for the design and construction of health facilities capable of withstanding climate-related disasters. The proposed framework seeks to ensure that hospitals and healthcare infrastructure remain functional during floods, earthquakes, landslides and other climate-induced emergencies. Experts emphasised that resilient health systems are becoming increasingly important as climate change intensifies disease outbreaks and extreme weather events. Discussions focused on integrating disaster risk reduction, environmental sustainability and climate adaptation into healthcare infrastructure planning. Analysts argued that strengthening health facilities enhances both emergency preparedness and long-term public health resilience. The initiative reflects Nepal's broader efforts to climate-proof critical public infrastructure against future environmental risks.
("Workshop held to finalize Nepal's guideline for design and construction of health buildings," WHO Nepal, 05 July 2026.)
https://www.who.int/nepal/news/detail/03-07-2026-workshop-held-to-finalize-nepal-s-guideline-for-design-and-construction-of-health-buildings

Political uncertainty affects Nepal's investment climate
On 05 July, Nepal News reported that political uncertainty during the government's first 100 days is creating concerns over Nepal's investment climate. While the report primarily focused on governance and economic confidence, analysts observed that policy stability remains essential for attracting investment into climate-resilient infrastructure, renewable energy and sustainable development projects. Experts noted that investors increasingly evaluate regulatory certainty alongside environmental and climate risks before committing long-term capital. Discussions highlighted the importance of predictable governance, transparent policymaking and institutional stability for supporting Nepal's green economic transition. The article reflects the growing intersection between political governance, investment confidence and climate-resilient economic development, particularly as Nepal seeks to mobilise greater domestic and international financing for sustainable growth.
("100 days of government: A climate of fear threatens investment," Nepal News, 05 July 2026.)
https://english.nepalnews.com/s/business/100-days-of-government-a-climate-of-fear-threatens-investment/

Nepal strengthens climate resilience through sustainable development initiatives
On 02 July, The Rising Nepal reported Nepal's continued efforts to integrate climate resilience into its national development agenda amid increasing environmental challenges. Policymakers highlighted the growing impacts of glacier retreat, erratic rainfall, floods, landslides and biodiversity loss on communities across the Himalayan region. Discussions focused on strengthening climate adaptation through improved disaster preparedness, resilient infrastructure, ecosystem conservation and sustainable resource management. Experts noted that Nepal's mountainous geography makes it particularly vulnerable to climate-induced hazards, requiring stronger institutional coordination and greater investment in adaptation measures. The report also emphasised the importance of international climate finance and regional cooperation in

addressing shared Himalayan challenges. Analysts argued that resilience-building must become an integral component of long-term development planning rather than a standalone environmental objective. The article reflects Nepal's continuing efforts to mainstream climate adaptation while balancing economic development with environmental sustainability.
("Nepal advances climate resilience initiatives," The Rising Nepal, 02 July 2026.)
https://risingnepaldaily.com/news/82807

Nepal continues strengthening climate resilience and sustainable development
On 01 July, The Rising Nepal reported continued efforts to integrate climate resilience into Nepal's national development agenda. Experts highlighted the increasing impacts of glacier retreat, changing rainfall patterns, floods, landslides, and ecosystem degradation on communities across the Himalayan region. Discussions focused on improving disaster preparedness, strengthening climate adaptation, and expanding investment in resilient infrastructure and environmental conservation. Policymakers also emphasised the importance of international climate finance and regional cooperation to address shared mountain challenges. Analysts noted that Nepal's unique geography makes it one of the countries most vulnerable to climate-induced hazards, requiring sustained investments in resilience-building. The report reflects Nepal's broader commitment to mainstreaming climate adaptation into development planning while strengthening environmental governance and community resilience.
("Nepal advances climate resilience initiatives," The Rising Nepal, 01 July 2026.)
https://risingnepaldaily.com/news/82698

Climate change threatens Manang's historic mountain architecture
On 01 July, Nepal News reported that climate change is placing Nepal's historic stone houses in Manang under increasing threat. Experts noted that changing weather patterns, heavier rainfall, freeze-thaw cycles, and other climate-related processes are accelerating the deterioration of centuries-old buildings that form an important part of the region's cultural heritage. Local communities expressed concern that environmental changes are affecting both traditional settlements and tourism-dependent livelihoods. Discussions highlighted the need to integrate heritage conservation into climate adaptation planning, particularly in fragile mountain environments. Analysts argued that climate change threatens not only ecosystems and infrastructure but also cultural identity and historical landscapes. The report illustrates how environmental change is reshaping both natural and cultural heritage across the Himalayan region, requiring multidisciplinary approaches to resilience and conservation.
("Climate change puts Manang's historic houses at risk," Nepal News, 01 July 2026.)
https://english.nepalnews.com/s/climate/climate-change-puts-manangs-historic-houses-at-risk/y

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Climate change reshapes global security and the nuclear order
On 30 July, The News International published an opinion arguing that climate change is increasingly influencing global security dynamics, including the evolving nuclear order. The article noted that resource scarcity, water insecurity, food shortages and climate-induced displacement are emerging as strategic risks that could heighten geopolitical tensions among nuclear-armed states. Experts emphasised that climate change should no longer be viewed solely as an environmental issue but as a multiplier of existing security threats. Discussions focused on integrating climate resilience into national security planning, regional cooperation and international governance frameworks. Analysts argued that addressing climate-related instability will require greater diplomatic engagement, multilateral cooperation and proactive risk management to prevent environmental crises from escalating into geopolitical conflicts. The commentary underscores the growing convergence of climate governance and international security.

("Climate change and a new nuclear order," The News International, 30 July 2026.) https://www.thenews.pk/print/1429014-climate-change-and-a-new-nuclear-order

The hidden economic cost of every monsoon demands long-term resilience

On 30 July, Eurasia Review published an opinion examining the recurring economic and social costs of South Asia's monsoon season, arguing that climate change is significantly amplifying these impacts. The article highlighted that floods, infrastructure damage, agricultural losses and disruptions to livelihoods impose substantial long-term costs that extend beyond immediate disaster response. Experts stressed that governments should invest more in resilient infrastructure, early warning systems, watershed management and climate adaptation rather than repeatedly financing post-disaster recovery. Discussions also emphasised the importance of integrating disaster risk reduction into national development planning. Analysts argued that treating monsoon disasters as predictable climate risks, rather than isolated emergencies, would improve economic resilience and reduce future losses. The commentary reinforces the need for proactive adaptation across South Asia.

("The real cost of every monsoon," Eurasia Review, 30 July 2026.) https://www.eurasiareview.com/29072026-the-real-cost-of-every-monsoon-oped/

Pakistan unveils monsoon preparedness plan to strengthen disaster resilience

On 29 July, The Express Tribune reported that the Government of Pakistan has launched a nationwide monsoon preparedness plan aimed at improving disaster management as heavy rainfall and flood risks intensify. Climate Change Minister Musadik Malik stressed that effective management, institutional coordination and proactive planning are essential to minimise the impacts of climate-induced disasters. The strategy focuses on strengthening early warning systems, improving coordination among federal and provincial agencies, and enhancing preparedness in flood-prone communities. Experts noted that climate change has increased the frequency and intensity of extreme rainfall events, making long-term adaptation more urgent. Analysts argued that integrating disaster risk reduction into development planning will be critical to reducing economic losses and safeguarding vulnerable populations. The initiative reflects Pakistan's continued transition from reactive emergency response towards anticipatory climate resilience.

("Govt unveils monsoon preparedness plan as climate minister urges better management to tackle disasters," The Express Tribune, 29 July 2026.) https://tribune.com.pk/story/2620718/govt-unveils-monsoon-preparedness-plan-as-climate-minister-urges-better-management-to-tackle-disaste

Pakistan accelerates efforts to strengthen climate resilience

On 29 July, Dawn reported that Pakistan is intensifying measures to address growing climate risks through improved environmental governance and adaptation planning. Officials highlighted the need to strengthen institutional coordination, disaster preparedness and climate-resilient infrastructure as the country continues to experience increasingly frequent floods, heatwaves and water-related challenges. Discussions focused on integrating climate adaptation into national development strategies while improving early warning systems and community preparedness. Experts noted that Pakistan's vulnerability to climate change requires sustained investments in resilience alongside greater international climate finance. Analysts argued that long-term climate security depends on embedding environmental considerations into economic planning rather than relying solely on post-disaster interventions. The report reflects Pakistan's continued efforts to mainstream climate resilience across government policies.

("Pakistan advances climate resilience efforts," Dawn, 29 July 2026.) https://www.dawn.com/news/2019142

Pakistan unveils monsoon preparedness plan to strengthen disaster response

On 28 July, The Express Tribune reported that the Government of Pakistan has launched a comprehensive monsoon preparedness plan aimed at reducing disaster risks during the ongoing rainy season. Climate Change Minister Musadik Malik stressed that climate-induced disasters require better planning, stronger institutional coordination and improved management rather than emergency responses alone. The strategy includes enhancing early warning systems, improving coordination among disaster management agencies and strengthening community preparedness in flood-prone regions. Experts noted that increasingly erratic monsoon patterns, driven by climate change, demand long-term investments in climate-resilient infrastructure and adaptive governance. Analysts argued that mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into development planning will be essential as Pakistan experiences more frequent extreme weather events. The initiative reflects the country's continued shift towards proactive climate adaptation and resilience-building.

("Govt unveils monsoon preparedness plan as climate minister urges better management to tackle disasters," The Express Tribune, 28 July 2026.)
https://tribune.com.pk/story/2620718/govt-unveils-monsoon-preparedness-plan-as-climate-minister-urges-better-management-to-tackle-disaste

Climate change and population growth identified as Pakistan's greatest long-term challenges

On 28 July, Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) reported that Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb described climate change and rapid population growth as Pakistan's two most significant long-term development challenges. Speaking on the country's economic outlook, he emphasised that climate-related disasters are increasingly affecting agriculture, infrastructure, food security and fiscal stability. Officials highlighted the need for sustainable economic planning that integrates climate adaptation, efficient resource management and demographic considerations. Experts observed that balancing economic growth with environmental sustainability will require greater investment in resilient infrastructure, green technologies and climate-smart development. Analysts argued that recognising climate change as an economic challenge signals a broader shift towards integrating resilience into national planning. The remarks reinforce the growing linkage between climate policy and Pakistan's long-term development agenda.

("Climate change, population growth pose Pakistan's biggest challenges: Aurangzeb," APP, 28 July 2026.)
https://www.app.com.pk/business/climate-change-population-growth-pose-pakistans-biggest-challenges-aurangzeb/

Pakistan highlights climate resilience through sustainable development

On 26 July, Dawn reported Pakistan's continued emphasis on strengthening climate resilience through integrated environmental governance and sustainable development initiatives. Officials highlighted the need to enhance disaster preparedness, improve climate adaptation measures and protect vulnerable communities from increasingly frequent floods, heatwaves and water-related hazards. Discussions focused on expanding resilient infrastructure, strengthening institutional coordination and mobilising climate finance to address mounting climate risks. Experts noted that Pakistan's vulnerability to climate change necessitates long-term planning that integrates adaptation into national development priorities. Analysts argued that sustained investments in resilience and ecosystem protection will be essential to reduce future economic losses and humanitarian impacts. The report reflects Pakistan's ongoing efforts to shift from reactive disaster response towards comprehensive climate risk management.

("Pakistan advances climate resilience agenda," Dawn, 26 July 2026.)
https://www.dawn.com/news/2018656

Mangroves recognised as key to Pakistan's blue economy and climate resilience

On 26 July, The News International reported that Pakistan's climate leadership has identified mangrove conservation as a strategic priority for strengthening both climate resilience and the country's emerging blue economy. Officials highlighted the multiple benefits of mangrove ecosystems, including coastal protection, carbon sequestration, biodiversity conservation and support for fisheries-based livelihoods. Experts noted that restoring mangroves can significantly reduce storm surge impacts while contributing to Pakistan's climate mitigation and adaptation goals. Discussions focused on expanding restoration initiatives, improving coastal ecosystem management and integrating nature-based solutions into climate policy. Analysts argued that investing in mangrove conservation offers long-term environmental and economic returns by strengthening ecosystem resilience and supporting sustainable coastal development.

("Mangroves key to climate resilience and blue economy, says minister," The News International, 26 July 2026.)
https://www.thenews.pk/print/1428520-mangroves-key-to-climate-resilience-and-blue-economy-says-minister

Pakistan's solar boom exposes workers to escalating heat risks

On 24 July, Dialogue Earth reported that Pakistan's rapid expansion of rooftop and utility-scale solar energy is being driven by thousands of workers labouring under increasingly dangerous heatwave conditions. While the country's clean energy transition has accelerated in response to rising electricity costs and energy insecurity, installers frequently work in extreme temperatures with limited access to protective equipment, shade or heat safety protocols. Experts warned that occupational health protections must become an integral component of climate adaptation and the renewable energy transition. Discussions focused on improving labour regulations, workplace safety standards and employer responsibilities during periods of extreme heat. Analysts argued that a genuinely just energy transition must protect workers alongside expanding renewable capacity. The report highlights the growing intersection of climate change, public health, labour rights and sustainable development.

("Pakistan's solar revolution leans on workers toiling in extreme heat," Dialogue Earth, 24 July 2026.)
https://dialogue.earth/en/climate/pakistans-solar-revolution-leans-on-workers-toiling-in-extreme-heat/

Pakistan strengthens preparedness against climate-induced disasters

On 24 July, Dawn reported that Pakistan is intensifying efforts to improve disaster preparedness as climate-induced floods, heatwaves and extreme weather events become increasingly frequent. Officials highlighted measures to strengthen early warning systems, emergency response coordination and community resilience in vulnerable regions. Experts noted that the country's exposure to glacial melt, erratic monsoons and rising temperatures requires sustained investments in adaptation rather than reactive disaster management. Discussions also focused on improving institutional coordination and mobilising climate finance to reduce future risks. Analysts argued that integrating climate resilience into development planning will be essential to minimise economic losses and humanitarian impacts. The report reflects Pakistan's continued shift towards long-term adaptation strategies in response to accelerating climate change.

("Pakistan strengthens climate disaster preparedness," Dawn, 24 July 2026.)
https://www.dawn.com/news/2018000

Climate change poses growing public health challenge in Pakistan

On 24 July, The Express Tribune highlighted the increasingly close relationship between climate change and public health in Pakistan. The article noted that rising temperatures, worsening air quality, floods and changing disease patterns are contributing to greater risks of heat-related

illnesses, vector-borne diseases, malnutrition and mental health challenges. Experts argued that climate resilience should become an integral part of healthcare planning through stronger surveillance systems, resilient health infrastructure and improved emergency preparedness. Discussions focused on enhancing coordination between environmental and public health agencies to better manage climate-sensitive health risks. Analysts observed that protecting public health will require integrating climate adaptation into national health policies and expanding community awareness. The commentary underscores that climate change has become a major public health issue rather than solely an environmental concern.
("Climate change and public health," The Express Tribune, 24 July 2026.)
https://tribune.com.pk/story/2619879/climate-change-and-public-health

Pakistan urged to accelerate climate action amid escalating risks
On 23 July, The Diplomatic Insight argued that Pakistan can no longer afford incremental responses to climate change as the country faces increasingly frequent floods, heatwaves, droughts and glacial hazards. The article noted that despite contributing minimally to global greenhouse gas emissions, Pakistan remains among the world's most climate-vulnerable nations. Experts stressed the need to strengthen climate governance, invest in resilient infrastructure and expand community-based adaptation measures alongside improved disaster preparedness. Discussions also highlighted the importance of securing international climate finance and integrating climate resilience into national development planning. Analysts argued that effective climate action requires stronger institutional coordination and long-term policy commitments rather than emergency responses after disasters occur. The commentary reinforces growing calls for Pakistan to adopt a proactive and comprehensive climate strategy to safeguard economic development and vulnerable communities.
("Pakistan's climate crisis: Time to act," The Diplomatic Insight, 23 July 2026.)
https://thediplomaticinsight.com/pakistan-climate-crisis-time-to-act/

Pakistan's solar transition depends on workers facing extreme heat
On 21 July, Dialogue Earth reported that Pakistan's rapidly expanding solar energy sector increasingly relies on workers installing solar panels under dangerous heatwave conditions. The article highlighted that while renewable energy is helping reduce emissions and improve energy access, labourers often work without adequate heat protection, exposing them to dehydration, heat stress and other occupational health risks. Experts noted that climate adaptation must also include safeguarding workers involved in building green infrastructure. Discussions focused on strengthening labour standards, improving workplace safety and integrating occupational health into climate policies. Analysts argued that a just energy transition requires protecting vulnerable workers while accelerating renewable energy deployment. The report reflects the growing intersection between climate action, labour rights and public health as South Asia experiences increasingly severe and prolonged heatwaves.
("Pakistan's solar revolution leans on workers toiling in extreme heat," Dialogue Earth, 21 July 2026.)
https://dialogue.earth/en/climate/pakistans-solar-revolution-leans-on-workers-toiling-in-extreme-heat/

Pakistan and Xizang seek closer cooperation on climate and mountain ecology
On 21 July, The Nation reported that Pakistan and China's Xizang (Tibet) Autonomous Region agreed to strengthen cooperation on climate action, mountain ecology and environmental conservation. Officials highlighted the shared environmental challenges facing Himalayan and Karakoram regions, including glacier retreat, biodiversity loss, changing weather patterns and water security. Discussions focused on expanding scientific collaboration, ecological protection, sustainable mountain development and

knowledge exchange. Experts noted that transboundary cooperation has become increasingly important as climate impacts extend across national borders. Analysts argued that partnerships on mountain ecosystems can contribute to improved regional resilience while supporting sustainable development objectives. The initiative reflects growing recognition that addressing climate change in high-altitude environments requires scientific cooperation and coordinated environmental governance among neighbouring countries.
("Pakistan, Xizang eye closer cooperation on climate action, mountain ecology," The Nation, 21 July 2026.)
https://www.nation.com.pk/21-Jul-2026/pakistan-xizang-eye-closer-cooperation-climate-action-mountain-ecology

Opinion highlights Islamabad's water demand at 475 MLD against a supply of just 270 MLD amid rapid urbanisation
On 20 July, The Friday Times published an opinion article arguing that rapid urbanisation and industrial development are driving water scarcity, threatening to worsen the country's climate vulnerability. The article cited Islamabad as an example, noting that the capital's water demand now stands at 475 million litres per day (MLD), against an actual supply of just 270 MLD, as green belts, forests and groundwater recharge zones have been replaced by housing and commercial development. The article argued that concrete surfaces prevent rainwater from reaching the soil, depleting groundwater while increasing surface runoff and urban flooding. It noted that while the country contributes less than one per cent to global greenhouse gas emissions, domestic factors such as deforestation from urbanisation have compounded its climate risks. The commentary called for climate-resilient urban planning, public awareness campaigns on water conservation, mandatory rooftop rainwater harvesting, and small-scale dams in new housing developments to recharge groundwater and reduce pressure on the capital's main reservoirs.
("Urbanisation And Challenge Of Water Scarcity," The Friday Times, 20 July 2026.)
https://www.thefridaytimes.com/20-Jul-2026/urbanisation-challenge-water-scarcity

Heat and drought threaten livestock across Pakistan's major farming regions
On 20 July, The Express Tribune reported that climate change is increasingly affecting Pakistan's livestock sector, particularly in Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, where rising temperatures, prolonged droughts and erratic rainfall are disrupting livestock production. The report noted that the livestock sector contributes around 14 per cent of the national Gross Domestic Product and nearly 61 per cent of agricultural value added, making it a critical source of income for millions of rural households. The report said heat stress has reduced milk yields by 10 to 25 per cent in some areas, while water scarcity and shrinking grazing lands have increased livestock mortality and disease outbreaks. Farmers in arid districts of Tharparkar, Cholistan and Balochistan have been particularly affected by fodder shortages and declining animal health. Experts called for climate-resilient livestock management, improved veterinary services, drought-resistant fodder and stronger government support to protect livelihoods and strengthen food security.
("Climate change threatens livestock sector," The Express Tribune, 20 July 2026.)
https://tribune.com.pk/story/2619199/climate-change-threatens-livestock-sector

Pakistan strengthens climate adaptation through community resilience
On 13 July, Dawn reported Pakistan's continued efforts to strengthen climate adaptation and disaster resilience in response to growing environmental challenges. Officials highlighted the increasing impacts of floods, prolonged heatwaves, glacier melt and water scarcity on livelihoods and economic development. Discussions focused on expanding climate-resilient infrastructure, improving disaster preparedness and strengthening institutional coordination to reduce vulnerability. Experts noted that adaptation planning must increasingly incorporate

scientific forecasting and community-based resilience strategies as climate risks intensify. Analysts argued that Pakistan's long-term climate security will depend on sustained investments in environmental governance, local adaptation and international climate finance. The report reflects the country's broader objective of integrating climate resilience into national development planning while strengthening preparedness against increasingly frequent climate-related disasters.
("Pakistan advances climate resilience efforts," Dawn, 13 July 2026.)
https://www.dawn.com/news/2015002

Technology promoted as key to strengthening food security
On 13 July, The Express Tribune highlighted the growing importance of modern technologies in improving Pakistan's food security amid increasing climate pressures. Experts noted that climate change, water scarcity, rising temperatures and unpredictable weather patterns are placing mounting stress on agricultural production. Discussions focused on adopting precision agriculture, climate-smart farming techniques, digital technologies and improved irrigation systems to enhance productivity while reducing environmental impacts. Policymakers argued that technological innovation will play a critical role in ensuring long-term food security as climate variability increases. Analysts observed that strengthening agricultural resilience requires combining scientific innovation with farmer training, investment and policy support. The report reflects Pakistan's growing emphasis on modernising agriculture as part of its broader climate adaptation strategy.
("Adopting modern tech to strengthen food security," The Express Tribune, 13 July 2026.)
https://tribune.com.pk/story/2617879/adopting-modern-tech-to-strengthen-food-security

Indus Delta stands at the frontline of Pakistan's climate future
On 10 July, The Friday Times examined how the Indus Delta has become one of Pakistan's most climate-vulnerable regions, facing rising sea levels, coastal erosion, saline intrusion and declining freshwater flows. The article highlighted that climate change, combined with upstream water diversion and ecological degradation, is threatening livelihoods dependent on fishing, agriculture and mangrove ecosystems. Experts warned that shrinking freshwater inflows have accelerated environmental decline, reducing biodiversity and increasing the vulnerability of coastal communities. Discussions focused on restoring mangrove forests, improving water governance and strengthening community-based adaptation strategies. Analysts argued that safeguarding the Indus Delta is essential not only for environmental conservation but also for Pakistan's long-term food security, disaster resilience and coastal economy. The report reflects growing concern that the future of Pakistan's coastline will depend on integrated climate adaptation and sustainable river basin management.
("Indus Delta at a crossroads: Climate, communities and Pakistan's coastal future," The Friday Times, 10 July 2026.)
https://www.thefridaytimes.com/11-Jul-2026/indus-delta-crossroads-climate-communities-pakistan-s-coastal-future

Experts warn climate spending cuts undermine long-term resilience
On 09 July, The Express Tribune published an opinion warning that reducing climate-related spending at a time of escalating ecological crises could weaken Pakistan's ability to respond to future disasters. The article argued that frequent floods, heatwaves, droughts and water scarcity require sustained investments in adaptation, disaster preparedness and ecosystem restoration rather than reductions in climate budgets. Experts noted that Pakistan continues to rank among the world's most climate-vulnerable countries despite contributing minimally to global emissions. Discussions focused on balancing fiscal pressures with the growing need for climate-resilient infrastructure and community-based adaptation programmes. Analysts argued that climate expenditure should be viewed as an investment in national resilience rather than a

discretionary cost. The commentary reflects increasing concern that delayed climate action will significantly raise future economic losses and humanitarian challenges.
("Climate cuts in the age of looming ecological crises," The Express Tribune, 09 July 2026.)
https://tribune.com.pk/story/2617382/climate-cuts-in-the-age-of-looming-ecological-crises

Pakistan strengthens climate adaptation through community resilience
On 09 July, Dawn reported continued efforts by Pakistan to strengthen climate adaptation and disaster resilience amid increasing environmental risks. Officials highlighted initiatives aimed at improving flood preparedness, water management, ecosystem conservation and community resilience in vulnerable regions. Experts noted that climate-induced disasters continue to place significant pressure on livelihoods, infrastructure and food security across the country. Discussions focused on strengthening institutional coordination, expanding adaptation financing and integrating climate resilience into national development planning. Analysts argued that Pakistan's future resilience will depend on sustained investments in preparedness, scientific forecasting and locally driven adaptation strategies. The report reflects the country's broader effort to reduce vulnerability to increasingly frequent and severe climate-related disasters while strengthening cooperation with international development partners.
("Pakistan advances climate resilience initiatives," Dawn, 09 July 2026.)
https://www.dawn.com/news/2013987

Security concerns continue to affect Pakistan's investment climate
On 09 July, The Tribune India reported that Pakistan's deteriorating security environment continues to raise concerns among foreign investors, potentially affecting long-term economic development and investment flows. Analysts noted that political stability, security and governance increasingly influence investment decisions alongside climate resilience and environmental risks. Experts observed that uncertainty may discourage investments in infrastructure, renewable energy and other sectors critical to Pakistan's green transition. Discussions highlighted the need for stable institutions, transparent policies and improved investor confidence to support sustainable economic growth. The report reflects the growing recognition that climate resilience, economic stability and governance are becoming increasingly interconnected in shaping development outcomes. Strengthening investor confidence will remain important as Pakistan seeks to mobilise financing for climate adaptation and sustainable infrastructure.
("Pakistan's worsening security climate raises concerns for foreign investors," The Tribune India, 09 July 2026.)
https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/world/pakistans-worsening-security-climate-raises-concerns-for-foreign-investors/

Pakistan strengthens climate resilience through adaptation-focused policies
On 08 July, Dawn reported Pakistan's continued efforts to strengthen climate resilience amid mounting environmental challenges affecting livelihoods, infrastructure and economic development. Officials highlighted the increasing impacts of floods, heatwaves, glacier melt and water scarcity, emphasising the need to integrate climate adaptation into long-term national planning. Discussions focused on improving disaster preparedness, expanding resilient infrastructure and enhancing institutional coordination to better respond to climate-induced risks. Experts noted that Pakistan remains among the countries most vulnerable to climate change despite contributing only a small fraction of global greenhouse gas emissions. Analysts argued that sustained investments in climate adaptation, stronger governance and increased international climate finance will be critical for reducing future losses. The report reflects Pakistan's broader strategy of mainstreaming climate resilience into development policies while strengthening its engagement with international partners on adaptation and disaster risk reduction.
("Pakistan advances climate resilience

efforts," Dawn, 08 July 2026.)
https://www.dawn.com/news/2013734

UNICEF warns monsoon floods are placing millions of Pakistani children at risk

On 07 July, UNICEF expressed concern over the humanitarian impact of ongoing monsoon floods across Pakistan, warning that children remain among the most vulnerable populations affected by the disaster. The organisation highlighted that widespread flooding has disrupted access to healthcare, education, safe drinking water and sanitation while increasing risks of waterborne diseases, malnutrition and displacement. Experts noted that recurring climate-induced floods continue to undermine children's wellbeing and long-term development. Discussions focused on the need for rapid humanitarian assistance alongside investments in climate-resilient schools, healthcare facilities and disaster preparedness systems. Analysts argued that Pakistan's repeated flood emergencies demonstrate how climate change is increasingly becoming a child rights and human development issue rather than solely an environmental concern. The statement reinforces growing international calls to strengthen resilience before disasters occur rather than relying primarily on post-disaster relief.
("UNICEF statement on monsoon floods impact on children in Pakistan," UNICEF Asia-Pacific, 07 July 2026.)
https://www.unicef.org/asia-pacific/press-releases/unicef-statement-monsoon-floods-impact-children-pakistan

UK-backed climate finance partnership aims to mobilise green investment

On 07 July, The Nation reported that the United Kingdom welcomed a new USD 50 million climate finance partnership between Bank Alfalah and British International Investment (BII) aimed at expanding green financing in Pakistan. The initiative seeks to increase investment in renewable energy, climate-resilient infrastructure and environmentally sustainable businesses while strengthening the country's transition towards a low-carbon economy. Officials described climate finance as essential for enabling vulnerable countries to address rising adaptation and mitigation costs. Experts noted that mobilising private capital has become increasingly important as public climate finance remains insufficient to meet growing investment needs. Analysts argued that partnerships between financial institutions and international development organisations can accelerate green investment while supporting Pakistan's broader climate commitments. The agreement reflects increasing international efforts to strengthen climate finance mechanisms across South Asia.
("UK envoy hails $50m climate finance partnership between Bank Alfalah and BII," The Nation, 07 July 2026.)
https://www.nation.com.pk/07-Jul-2026/uk-envoy-hails-dollar-50m-climate-finance-partnership-bank-alfalah-bii

Pakistan advances climate resilience through stronger adaptation planning

On 05 July, Dawn reported Pakistan's continued efforts to strengthen climate resilience amid increasing environmental and developmental challenges. Policymakers highlighted the growing impacts of extreme heat, floods, glacier melt, water scarcity and ecosystem degradation on communities and key economic sectors. Discussions focused on integrating climate adaptation into national development planning, strengthening disaster preparedness and improving environmental governance. Experts noted that Pakistan continues to face rising climate-related economic losses despite contributing only a small share of global greenhouse gas emissions. Analysts argued that greater investment in climate-resilient infrastructure, improved institutional coordination and enhanced access to international climate finance will be essential for reducing future vulnerabilities. The report reflects Pakistan's broader strategy of mainstreaming climate resilience across sectors while advocating internationally for stronger support to countries disproportionately affected by climate change.
("Pakistan advances climate resilience efforts," Dawn, 05 July 2026.)

https://www.dawn.com/news/2013152

Youth increasingly shaping Pakistan's climate action agenda

On 05 July, UNDP Pakistan highlighted the growing contribution of young people to climate action and sustainable development across the country. Through community initiatives, innovation, advocacy and local leadership, youth are increasingly participating in projects addressing climate adaptation, environmental conservation, renewable energy and disaster resilience. Experts noted that young people represent an important source of innovation and social mobilisation as Pakistan confronts escalating climate challenges. Discussions emphasised the need to provide youth with greater access to climate education, financing and decision-making opportunities. Analysts argued that empowering young leaders strengthens long-term resilience while encouraging locally driven climate solutions. The report reflects international recognition that meaningful youth participation is essential for achieving sustainable development goals and implementing effective climate policies. Pakistan continues to expand opportunities for youth engagement within its broader climate resilience strategy.
("Youth shaping climate action," UNDP Pakistan, 05 July 2026.)
https://www.undp.org/pakistan/stories/youth-shaping-climate-action

SRI LANKA

Colombo passes the National Environmental (Amendment) Bill

On 21 July, Daily Mirror reported that Speaker Dr. Jagath Wickramaratne endorsed the certificate for the National Environmental (Amendment) Bill, which was passed by Parliament. The Act is intended to strengthen the legal framework for the protection, management, and enhancement of the environment. It also aims to improve regulatory mechanisms for waste disposal and modernise environmental protection mechanisms. The Bill has now come into force as the National Environmental (Amendment) Act, No. 15 of 2026.
("National Environmental Act comes into force from today," Daily Mirror, 21 July 2026)
https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/National-Environmental-Act-comes-into-force-from-today/108-346193

UN recognises Sri Lanka's green initiatives, opening new climate finance opportunities

On 09 July, Daily Mirror reported that the United Nations has praised Sri Lanka's recent environmental initiatives, creating new opportunities for international climate financing and sustainable development partnerships. Officials noted that continued progress in environmental governance, conservation and climate action has strengthened confidence among international development partners. Discussions focused on expanding investments in renewable energy, ecosystem restoration, climate adaptation and green infrastructure. Experts argued that stronger international recognition could help Sri Lanka mobilise additional financial resources needed to implement its climate commitments. Analysts observed that access to climate finance will become increasingly important as developing countries confront rising adaptation costs associated with climate change. The report highlights the growing relationship between environmental governance, international credibility and sustainable development financing.
("UN praises Sri Lanka's green initiatives, opens doors for new climate financing," Daily Mirror, 09 July 2026.)
https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/UN-praises-Sri-Lankas-green-initiatives-opens-doors-for-new-climate-financing/108-345184

Sri Lanka prepares for possible El Niño-related climate disruptions

On 07 July, Daily Mirror reported that Sri Lanka is preparing for possible El Niño-related weather disruptions following warnings from meteorological authorities. Experts indicated that El Niño could alter rainfall patterns, increase temperatures and intensify climate variability across the island, affecting agriculture, water

resources and disaster management. Officials are strengthening preparedness measures to reduce potential impacts on food production, infrastructure and vulnerable communities. Discussions focused on improving weather forecasting, strengthening early-warning systems and enhancing climate adaptation planning across key sectors. Analysts noted that proactive planning will be essential as climate variability becomes increasingly unpredictable due to global warming. The report reflects Sri Lanka's growing emphasis on climate preparedness as changing weather patterns continue to pose significant economic and environmental risks.
("Sri Lanka braces for El Niño impacts due to weather volatility warnings," Daily Mirror, 07 July 2026.)
https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/Sri-Lanka-braces-for-El-Ni%C3%B1o-impacts-due-to-weather-volatility-warnings/108-344849

Biodigesters promoted as a climate-smart solution for agriculture
On 07 July, Daily FT highlighted biodigesters as a practical solution to address Sri Lanka's interconnected food, energy and climate challenges. The article argued that converting agricultural waste into biogas and organic fertiliser can reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve farm productivity and lower dependence on fossil fuels. Experts noted that biodigesters also help farmers manage waste more efficiently while generating renewable energy for household and agricultural use. Discussions focused on supporting wider adoption through financial incentives, technical assistance and policy support. Analysts argued that decentralised renewable energy technologies can strengthen rural resilience while contributing to national climate mitigation goals. The report reflects increasing interest in nature-based and circular economy solutions that simultaneously support agricultural sustainability, energy security and climate action.
("Biodigesters: A farm-gate answer to Sri Lanka's food, energy and climate dilemma," Daily FT, 07 July 2026.)
https://www.ft.lk/columns/Biodigesters-A-farm-gate-answer-to-Sri-Lanka-s-food-energy-and-climate-dilemma/4-794307

Simple cooling solutions can improve climate resilience in Pakistan
On 01 July, Dialogue Earth highlighted how low-cost cooling techniques can help Pakistani households adapt to increasingly frequent and intense heatwaves. Experts noted that passive cooling measures including improved ventilation, reflective roofing materials, insulation, shaded courtyards, and traditional architectural designs can significantly reduce indoor temperatures without increasing electricity consumption. The report emphasised that many vulnerable households cannot afford air conditioning, making affordable climate adaptation solutions increasingly important. Discussions focused on integrating climate-responsive building practices into housing policies and urban planning. Analysts argued that simple design interventions can improve public health, lower energy demand, and strengthen resilience against rising temperatures driven by climate change. The article illustrates how locally appropriate, low-cost adaptation strategies can complement broader climate policies. As extreme heat becomes more common across South Asia, sustainable cooling solutions are emerging as an increasingly important public policy priority.
("Keeping Pakistan's homes cool with simple solutions," Dialogue Earth, 01 July 2026.)
https://dialogue.earth/en/climate/qa-keeping-pakistans-homes-cool-with-simple-solutions/

Youth increasingly shaping Pakistan's climate action agenda
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an important source of innovation and social mobilisation as Pakistan confronts escalating climate challenges. Discussions emphasised the need to provide youth with greater access to climate education, financing, and decision-making opportunities. Analysts argued that empowering young leaders strengthens long-term resilience while encouraging locally driven climate solutions. The report reflects international recognition that meaningful youth participation is essential for achieving sustainable development goals and implementing effective climate policies. Pakistan continues to expand opportunities for youth engagement within its broader climate resilience strategy.
("Youth shaping climate action," UNDP Pakistan, 01 July 2026.)
https://www.undp.org/pakistan/stories/youth-shaping-climate-action

Climate change adds new dimensions to the Indus Waters dispute
On 01 July, The Week analysed how climate change is increasingly influencing tensions surrounding the Indus Waters Treaty between India and Pakistan. The report highlighted that glacier retreat, erratic monsoon rainfall, rising temperatures, and growing water demand are intensifying pressure on the Indus Basin. Experts noted that although the treaty has remained resilient through decades of political tensions, changing climatic conditions are introducing new uncertainties into water governance. Discussions focused on the need for improved hydrological data-sharing, scientific cooperation, and adaptive water management to reduce future risks. Analysts argued that climate change is transforming water security into an increasingly significant geopolitical issue across South Asia. The article emphasised that future cooperation will require both diplomatic engagement and climate-informed basin management. The report reflects growing concern over the intersection of environmental change and regional security.
("Indus Waters Treaty: India, Pakistan, climate and conflict," The Week, 01 July 2026.)
https://www.theweek.in/news/india/2026/06/30/indus-waters-treaty-india-pakistan-climate-conflict.amp.html

REGIONAL

China highlights climate cooperation and ecological development
On 24 July, China Daily reported that China is expanding international cooperation on climate action, ecological conservation and green development through partnerships with neighbouring countries. Officials emphasised collaboration in renewable energy, environmental protection, biodiversity conservation and sustainable infrastructure as part of broader regional cooperation initiatives. Experts noted that climate diplomacy is increasingly becoming an important component of China's regional engagement, particularly in areas affected by glacier retreat, water insecurity and environmental degradation. Discussions focused on strengthening scientific exchanges, technology transfer and joint ecological management. Analysts argued that regional environmental cooperation can complement economic partnerships while addressing shared climate challenges. The report reflects China's continued emphasis on integrating climate governance into its broader foreign policy and development agenda.
"China advances regional cooperation on climate and ecology," China Daily, 24 July 2026.
https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202607/23/WS6a61f0fba310986e2b466f6e.html

China calls for stronger cooperation on South Asia's climate resilience
On 13 July, Global Times reported that China has called for deeper regional cooperation to address climate change and promote sustainable development across South Asia. The report highlighted that climate-related challenges, including glacier retreat, water insecurity, extreme weather events and food security risks, increasingly transcend national boundaries and require coordinated responses. Discussions focused on strengthening scientific collaboration, green technology transfer and climate-resilient infrastructure through regional partnerships. Experts noted that

environmental cooperation could become an important pillar of broader regional engagement despite existing geopolitical differences. Analysts argued that addressing shared climate risks presents opportunities for confidence-building and practical cooperation among South Asian countries. The article reflects China's continued emphasis on climate diplomacy and sustainable development as components of its regional engagement strategy.
("China calls for stronger regional climate cooperation," Global Times, 13 July 2026.)
https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202607/1365772.shtml

Study finds climate change increasing compound weather extremes across South Asia

On 08 July, Nature Climate Change published new research showing that climate change is increasing the frequency and intensity of compound weather extremes across South Asia. The study found that simultaneous events such as heatwaves, droughts, intense rainfall and flooding are becoming more likely under rising global temperatures, posing greater risks than isolated climate hazards. Researchers noted that these overlapping events can significantly amplify impacts on agriculture, water resources, infrastructure, public health and economic productivity. Discussions highlighted the need for integrated climate risk assessments, improved forecasting systems and adaptation policies capable of addressing multiple hazards simultaneously. Analysts argued that governments must move beyond planning for single disasters and adopt comprehensive resilience strategies that account for increasingly interconnected climate risks. The findings provide further scientific evidence of the growing complexity of climate impacts across the region.
("Compound climate extremes in South Asia," Nature Climate Change, 08 July 2026.)
https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-026-02588-y