

Developing locally-led adaptation plans for rural roads

Rural roads are essential to daily life in Bangladesh, connecting communities to markets, schools, and services.

However, poorly designed roads can disrupt natural water flows, contribute to flooding and erosion, and put livelihoods at risk.

To address these challenges, GOPA MetaMeta, in partnership with WAVE Foundation and Socioconsult Ltd, and supported by Global Affairs Canada through the Global Center on Adaptation (GCA), facilitated the development of locally led adaptation plans for two roads in Rajshahi, Bangladesh.

We adapted the People's Adaptation Planning methodology - previously used in rural and urban settings - to road infrastructure and piloted this approach.



Green Roads for Water

The Green Roads for Water (GR4W) approach integrates water management into road development. Through this approach, roads help store water, guide water flows, reduce flood risks, and address drainage, while improving local livelihoods.

By integrating the GR4W approach, the project reimagined rural roads as climate-smart infrastructure, incorporating water management, slope stabilization, and tree planting to transform road-related risks into opportunities



Women Adaptation Labs to guide investments

We engaged and supported women's groups living in the hinterland of two selected stretches of roads in Rajshahi (Bangladesh) through Women's Adaptation Labs, to develop locally led adaptation plans. These are meant to inform the planning, design and future operation and maintenance of the roads.

Stakeholder Mapping



1 Identify key actors and their roles.

Formation of Committees



2 Establish - or work with existing - committees for strategic oversight and local leadership.

Climate Risk Assessment

3 Analyze and validate current and future climate risks - by combining community-led risk profiling and scientific assessments.



Settlement Mapping

5 Map local features and infrastructure, starting with a transect walk and mapping exercise, led by communities and their representatives.



Household Enumeration

7 Conduct a census to collect demographic, socioeconomic, and vulnerability data, to subsequently inform planning exercises.



Training Community Mobilizers and Enumerators

4 Recruit and train local women as community mobilizers and enumerators, building local capacity for data collection, facilitation, and participatory planning, and ensuring trust and effective engagement with the community.



Settlement Profiling

6 Gather information on changes in time and trends of key issues, and stakeholder mapping, led by communities and their representatives.



Developing the adaptation plan

9 Develop a list of validated, costed adaptation actions, presented in an adaptation plan, formalized with local authorities.



Climate Risk Profiling

8 Facilitate community discussions to identify and prioritize risks and solutions - through a series of dialogues with and without external experts and stakeholders.



From pilot to scale

Resources

Scan these QR codes to access the adaptation plans, manual on scaling, and guidelines on Green Roads for Water in Bangladesh.



Manual: Scaling Women-Led Adaptation for Green Roads for Water



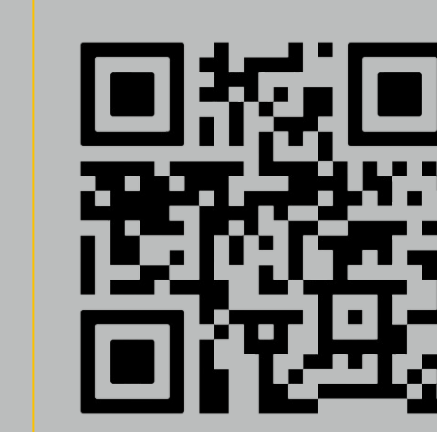
Mohanpur Road Adaptation Plan



Guidelines on Green Roads for Water in Bangladesh



Godagari Road Adaptation Plan



Scan this QR code to visit the GOPA Locally-Led Adaptation Dossier