

Ideas to Improve Bangladesh's Environment and Biodiversity

- Industrial symbiosis approach for a robust recycling strategy.
- Replace traditional cook stoves with improved cook stoves.
- Use of surface water through re-excavation of canals and khals.
- Use of ground water in areas where surface water is not suitable for drinking.
- Relocate tanneries away from rivers.
- Make the use of ETPs mandatory in the leather sector.
- Mandatory installation of rooftop solar panels (to harness solar energy in summer).
- Create pipes to channel rainwater (during monsoon) to storage tanks.
- Harvesting rainwater for domestic use (e.g. washing cars, clothes and flushing toilets).
- Clean Buriganga River.
- Arresting the loss of soil fertility from tobacco cultivation in Chittagong and Hill Tract areas.
- Encouraging farmers to switch to alternative, non-tobacco cash crops.
- Adopt a migration policy for climate migrants dwelling in slums in urban areas.
- Engagement of local residents and communities in protecting and managing natural resources.
- Set up deep tube wells (below 135 feet) in arsenic prone areas.
- Initiate behavior change communication (BCC) activities for gas utilization in households.
- Waste management by electricity generated from waste.
- Increase wetlands as a source for heat sink.
- Encourage rooftop gardens.
- Assess the role and significance of ETPs.
- Implementation of development projects to consider probable species migration.
- Encourage separation of plastic waste products from bio degradable ones through use of multi-colored waste baskets.
- Recharge ground water.
- Natural resource management through community led initiatives.
- Planting 50,000 ha land of hill forest and 5,000 ha. of plain land forest.
- Creation of 500 meter wide permanent Coastal Green Belt.
- 5,000 ha of reed lands to be planted in Sylhet.
- 20,000 km of strip plantations for social forestry purposes.
- Plant fast growing tree species to meet demand for social forestry fuel.
- Develop 5,000 ha of bamboo, cane and murta plantation.
- Increase protected area (PA) coverage to 15 percent of the total forest land.
- Measure carbon stock in all potential PAs and programs for forest conservation.
- Communities should own natural resources, not government departments.
- Protect coral reefs.

- Restore 20,000 acres of the denuded Chokoria-Sunderban Reserve Forest with time bound action and monitoring plan.
- Continue moratorium on felling in natural forest.
- Complete the forest land survey and update land record.
- Importing trees and fish resources bearing in mind biodiversity consequences.
- Initiate watershed management and wetland conservation in the haor regions and Hill Tract areas.
- Provide credit facilities to encourage private sector to undertake high value crop (e.g. rubber and teak) plantation on a commercial basis.
- Streamline mechanisms for certifying and approving reforestation and forest protection under carbon credit and REDD mechanisms.
- Update National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAP) to uphold commitments on biodiversity conservation.
- Integrate biodiversity into National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and nationally appropriate mitigation action (NAMA).
- Strengthening the capacity of Bangladesh National Herbarium (BNH), and enforcement & surveillance capacity of Forest Department (FD).
- Identification of all areas under encroachments and developing a time bound action plan for eviction.
- Protection and restoration of endangered and threatened species.
- Establish a Biodiversity cell and Chemical Management cell at the Department of Environment.
- Reducing the impact of persistent organic pollutants (POPs).
- Protect non-Sundarban mangroves, especially in Teknaf.