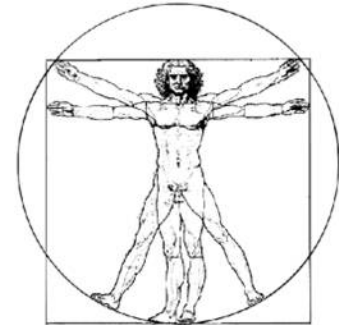


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## Loss & Damage

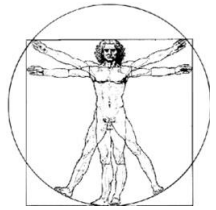
Slow Onset Events as Loss & Damage under the Paris Agreement

Prof Saleemul Huq

Director, ICCCAD, IUB

for sustained capacity building in support of international climate change negotiations  
pour un renforcement durable des capacités en appui aux négociations internationales  
sur les changements climatiques

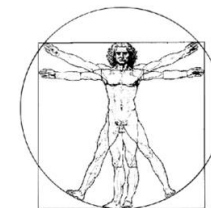
# IPCC Reports Calling for Urgent Actions



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- Cancun Agreements at COP16 in 2010 mentions about SoEs line SLR, ocean acidification, land degradation, loss of biodiversity, drought & desertification, etc.
- IPCC Special Report 2018 warned us of crossing the tipping points on SoEs & exposed the limits to adaptation.
- IPCC AR6 WG-II Report further echoed the same voice, arguing that global adaptation actions often resulted in ineffective & even maladaptation.
- IPCC (2022) argues that there is sufficient global capital and liquidity available to close global investment gaps, but they are misallocated, such as in fossil fuel extraction & as subsidy for the same.
- Climate finance, particularly adaptation finance amounts to measly figures.
- Whatever support is there, it is mostly for rapid onset events, because they figure in global news media.

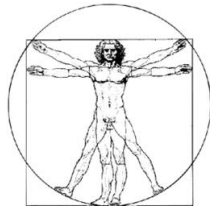
# Loss & Damage Under the Paris Agreement



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- At COP19 the Warsaw International Mechanism on L&D was established with a specific ToR & Work Plan.
- Paris Agreement Article 8 on L&D, with 8 areas of action, which includes, among others slow onset events (SoE), para 4.c
- The provisions on SoEs are there in the CBD & UNCCD, but the Paris Agreement & negotiations for its implementation brought the focus on SoEs.
- Under the WIM leadership, UNFCCC process produced 4 products on SoEs including the making of an inventory of SoE impacts by region.
- Asia & Africa are the most impacted by SoEs, such as water, food & health insecurity, land degradation, loss of biodiversity, SLR, human displacement & migration, etc. Which will push more than 100mn population into extreme poverty.
- SDGs 14 & 15 – Life under Water & Life on Land bring this issues into sharper relief.

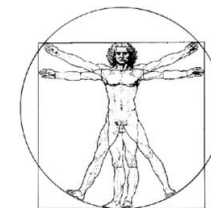
## SoE are a Slow Killer



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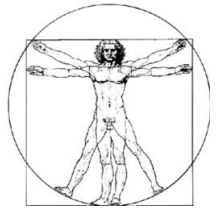
- Research has shown that over years SoEs working like slow poisoning cause more L&D including human and animal deaths than RoEs.
- SLR in particular is wrecking havoc on agriculture & water resources.
- SoEs even don't come under any insurance mechanism because of their known probabilities, and insurance still could not prove as an efficacious instrument for the RoEs, particularly for the most vulnerable poor.
- But there is no dedicated funding yet for L&D, though the upcoming COP27 has agreed to include an agenda on L&D financing.
- GEF is mandated to fund the CBD, but reports show that financing is very poor.
- UNCCCD has established a Land Degradation Neutrality Fund, but again its capitalization is very poor.

## What is the Way Out?



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- Arguments through economic instrumental rationality are not working to mobilize adequate financing at a minimum level for L&D, particularly for SoEs.
- Though the whole climate regime is based on economic rationality under the neoliberal market system. It is not working in transfer of funds & technologies.
- As there are overlaps about SoEs among the CBD, UNCCD and the Paris Agreement, there should be an an integrated approach to implementation of the SoE provisions both at national & global levels.
- Dedicated financing to be arranged at national level.
- Capacity building including action research at local levels.
- Networking & partnership building.
- Bangladesh experience – BCCTF, L&D Mechanism in the process.



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Thank you