Effective Policies for Action Plan in Climate Change Mitigation Strategies: Some Issues

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Abstract—*Changes in temperature and precipitation from both climate scenarios will significantly hurt crop yields and production with irrigated and rain-fed wheat and irrigated rice the hardest hit. Health problems like malaria and diarrhea shall rise due to climate change. India has covers by coastal zones (three side) are home to an ever growing concentration of people and economic activity, yet they are also subject to a number of climate risks, including sea-level rise and possible increased intensity of tropical storms and cyclones. These factors make adaptation to climate change critical. Coastal adaptation costs are significant and vary with the magnitude of sea-level rise, making it essential for policymakers to plan while accounting for the uncertainty. Water supply and flood management ranks as one of the top three adaptation costs in both the wetter and drier scenarios. Climate change affects agriculture by altering yields and changing areas where crops can be grown. As a climate change co-benefit, a large-scale conversion to biomass-energy can decrease India's greenhouse gas emissions.*

Keywords*: Climate change, policy, mitigation, action plan, agriculture, hydrological cycle.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Climate change has shown impacts [1], and certain climatic regimes are associated with particular plant communities or functional types [2-5]. Changes in climate would alter the configuration of forest ecosystems [6-7]. Recent modelling studies indicate that forest ecosystems could be seriously impacted by future climate change. Even with global warming of 1-2°C, much less than the most recent projections of warming during this century [9], most ecosystems and landscapes will be impacted through changes in species composition, productivity and biodiversity [10]; and these have implications for the livelihoods of people who depend on forest resources for their livelihoods [11].

Temperature increases of more than 2°C will substantially increase the likelihood of irreversible and potentially catastrophic impacts such as the extinction of half of all species (this shall have adverse impact on ecosystem health), inundation of 30 percent of coastal wetlands, and massive increases in malnutrition and diarrheal and cardio-respiratory diseases [12]. Glaciers are considered among the most sensitive indicators of climate change [13], advancing when climate cools and retreating when climate warms. As soil temperature increase, the decomposition rate of organic matter will increase, and then nutrient mineralization and availability for plants uptake become increased at presence of sufficient water if other conditions are unchanged [14]. Climate Change is a serious global environmental concern [15-20]. It is primarily caused by the building up of Green House Gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere [21].

Global Warming is a specific example of the broader term "Climate Change" and refers to the observed increase in the average temperature of the air near earth's surface and oceans in recent decades [22-26]. The CDM allows developing countries to generate Kyoto permits that can be traded in an international market for projects that otherwise would not have been undertaken and which reduce emissions below a baseline [27-29]. The biggest climate impact has been on changing weather patterns in South Asia [30-32]. Over the last 50 years, rising temperatures have led to a nearly 10 percent reduction in the duration and rainfall levels of the annual monsoons that are vital to nearly all Indian agriculture [33]. Various international environmental treaties and laws binding on world community were framed and international responses [34-35] are adopted by Government of India also.

2. EFFECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Adaptation requires understanding the potential impacts of climate change on human, economic, and ecological systems. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has developed six socioeconomic scenarios that characterize possible trajectories of emissions.

Vulnerability to climate change coupled with other environmental issues has a strong linkage with poverty and responsible to create multiple stresses on the growth of the nation. The Government is implementing the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) with a view to enhance the ecological sustainability of India's development path and address Climate Change.

The Government regularly reviews the progress under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), based on the information provided by the concerned nodal Ministry. India has aggressive renewable energy targets and industry energy efficiency policies, but faces significant infrastructure challenges, which may derail otherwise good policy. Some researchers predicted that after few decade there shall be a scenario of 4 ºC rise in global temperature, would result in increased climate extreme events such as heat waves, sea level rise, more storm surges, droughts and flooding in the South Asian region including India. The coastal and deltaic regions of India are reported to be particularly vulnerable to the risks of flooding. Law carbon initiatives are recommended to achieve sustainable development. Adaptation measures can be classified by the initiating economic sector public or private. There is need for planned adaptation (adaptation that results from a deliberate public policy decision) but not autonomous or spontaneous adaptation (adaptation by households and communities acting on their own without public interventions but within an existing public policy framework). Action on Climate Change must enhance, not diminish the prospects for development.

3. IMPACTS AND CONSEQUECES

It may be a change in the average weather conditions or a change in the distribution of weather events with respect to an average, Changes in groundwater may actually be much greater than the precipitation changes. For example, in places where annual rainfall may increase by 20 percent as a result of climate change, the groundwater might increase as much as 40 percent. Conversely, the analysis showed in some cases just a 20 percent decrease in rainfall could lead to a 70 percent decrease in the recharging of local aquifers, but the exact effects depend on a complex mix of factors.

Mountains receive more rainfall than low lying areas because the temperature on top of mountains is lower than the temperature at sea level. That is why you often see snow on the top of mountains all year round. The higher the place is above sea level the colder it will be. This happens because as altitude increases, air becomes thinner and is less able to absorb and retain heat. Warming directly affects rate of plant respiration, photosynthesis, and other biogeochemical processes. For instance, enhanced CO_2 concentration can increase photosynthetic rate especially for plants growing under warm and dry condition such as C_3 plants. India recognizes the need to adopt a sustainable growth model.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research using crop simulation models indicated that climate change is projected to reduce timely sown irrigated wheat production by about 6% by 2020. In the case of late sown wheat, the projected levels are alarmingly high, to the extent of 18%. Similarly, a 4% fall in the yield of irrigated rice crop and a 6% fall in rain-fed rice are foreseen by 2020 due to climate changes. The warming trend in India over the past 100 years is estimated at 0.60°C. Indian Gross Domestic Product (GDP) shows a strong link with the year to year variations of Indian summer monsoon rainfall. The cost between 2010 and 2050 of adapting to an approximately 2°C warmer world by 2050 is in the range of $75 billion to $100 billion a year.

4. ADAPTATION MECHANISM

The NAPCC must address properly the issue of power generation, renewable energy and energy efficiency. Future energy infrastructure investment decisions, expected to total over 20 trillion dollars between 2005 and 2030, will have long-term impact on GHG emissions because of the long lifetimes of energy plants and other infrastructure capital stock. The widespread diffusion of low-carbon technologies may take many decades, even if early investments are made attractive. Initial estimates show that returning global energy-related CO_2 emissions to 2005 levels by 2030 would require a large shift in the pattern of investment. Two basic measures are necessary to reduce impacts of climate change; 1) practicing mitigation (reducing causes of climate change) by reducing emission of greenhouse gases (GHGs) from the source, by substitution and conservation of energy, improving carbon sequestration, etc and 2) practicing potential adaptation measures, (e.g. reducing the impacts of climate change).

Important examples of adaptations are; a) reducing vulnerability (degree of susceptibility of a system to a certain damage) to climate change impacts, focusing on coping strategies and practices to become beneficial by using opportunities associated to climate change by reducing susceptibility and external forces to develop the ability of resilience (increasing tackling capacity of the community and sectors to reduce risk and damages); b) have effective conservation strategies to maintain natural distribution of biodiversity and ecosystem services, and conserve species and genetic diversity; c) Improving productivity in terms of quality and quantity is vital to satisfy human needs, through adjusting different growth factors and solving effects of extreme events and associated problems, e.g. preventing spread of pathogens, weeds, dispersion of insect and pests etc; d) minimize impacts of climate change (its cause and effects) moving forward in researching to identify the responses of plant species to different variable climate conditions, and identifying uncertainty in climate and try to avoid challenges in practicing adaptation; e) finally, increased environmental benefits from forest ecosystems by afforestation and reforestation to reduce degradation and loss of habitats.

5. CONCLUSION

Mitigation opportunities with net negative costs can reduce emissions by about 6Gt (gigaton) of CO_2 equivalent/year in 2030. Climate change increased in many hundred deaths due to heat stress in recent years in India. Frequency of hot days and multiple-day heat waves has increased in past century. Warmer climate, precipitation decline and droughts in most

delta regions of India have resulted in drying up of wetlands and severe degradation of ecosystems. Drought in many States also resulted in scarcity of ground water and people do not have safe drinking water because climate change has already affected the hydrologic cycle. The key human health impacts of climate change include increases in the incidence of vector-borne disease (malaria), water-borne diseases (diarrhea), heat- and cold-related deaths, and injuries and deaths from flooding and in the prevalence of malnutrition (as agriculture production has reduced).

More than 100 people have lost their home/ houses due to rise in sea level at Sundarbans region (largest mangrove area) in West Bengal. Climate change policy has to be effective and require immediate implementation with proper technology applications and instruments. The NAPCC must address properly the issue of power generation, renewable energy and energy efficiency. Future energy infrastructure investment decisions, expected to total over 20 trillion

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