



# Reflections on COP21: Bangladesh Perspective

Presented by

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B A N G L A D E S H

a civil society think tank



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## **Acknowledgement**

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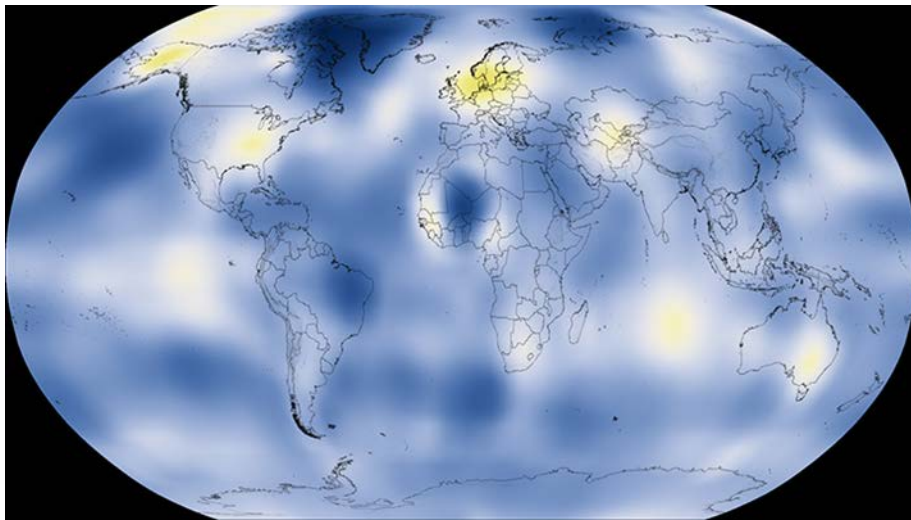
# 1. Background of COP21 meetings

- The COP (Conference of Parties) is the supreme decision-making body of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- The first COP meeting was held in Berlin, Germany in March, 1995. This year we saw COP21; held on 30 November to 11 December 2015, in Paris, France.
- Based on attendance of number of head of states, there are high COPs and Low COPs. Paris COP21, was a **High COP** with 150 Heads of states attending
- Commitments under the "**Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol**" on greenhouse gas emissions will run out in 2020; thus it was very important that the governments reach a new deal in Paris; one that will determine the future of carbon emissions after 2020
- The main feature of **Kyoto Protocol** was setting **mandatory targets on greenhouse-gas emissions** for the world's leading economies. These targets range from -8 per cent to +10 per cent of the countries' individual 1990 emissions levels.

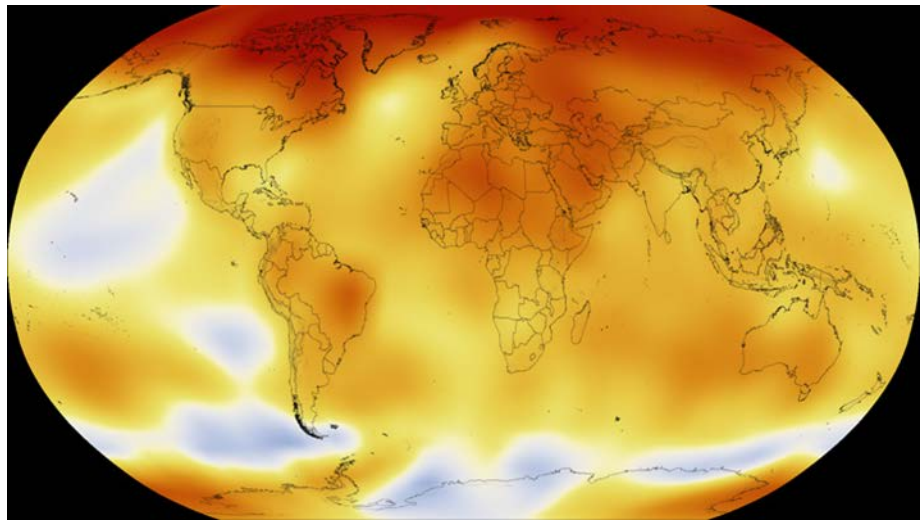
## 2. Why Paris COP21 is Important

*Scientists have warned time and again that if greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise, we will pass the threshold beyond which global warming becomes catastrophic and irreversible*

Global temperature 1914



Global temperature 2014

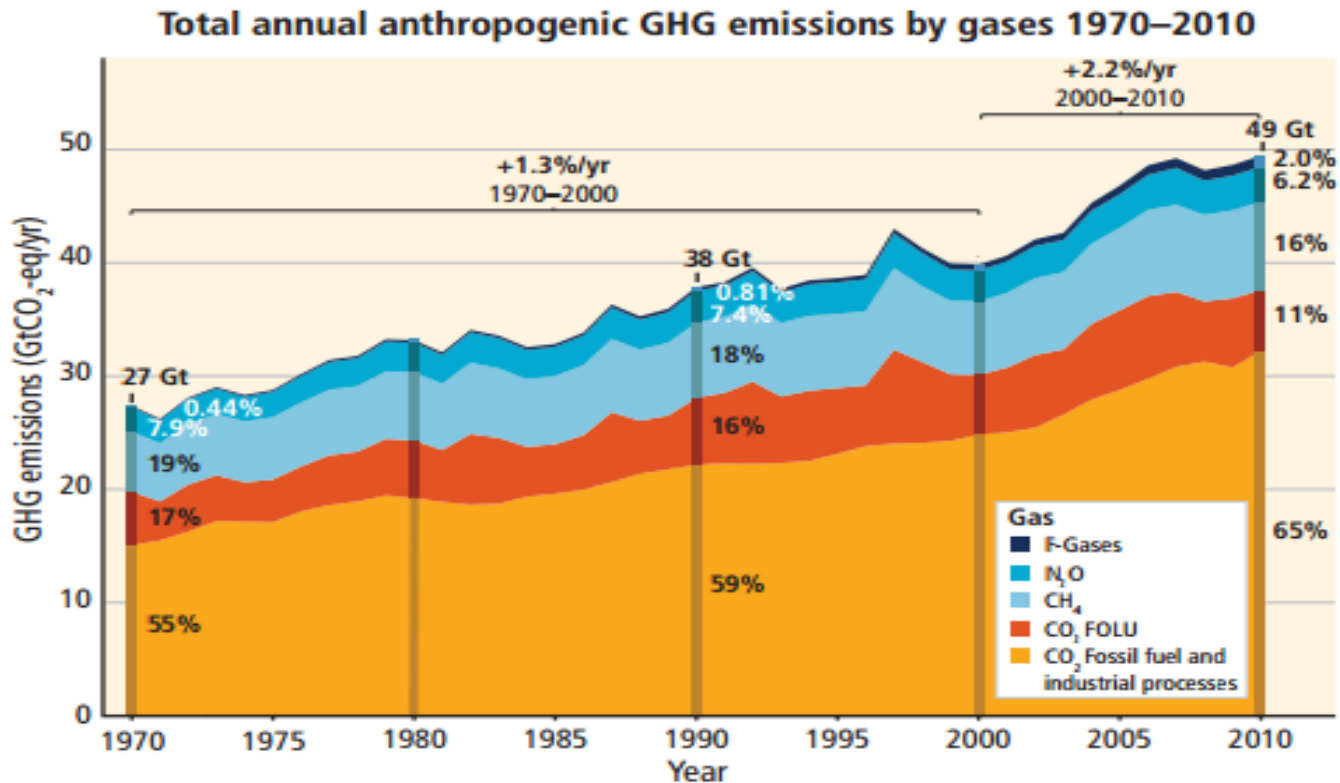


Source: NASA(2015) , <http://climate.nasa.gov/vital-signs/global-temperature>



## 2. Why Paris COP21 is Important

The current emissions level will continue to raise the temperature of world if emissions are not cut down

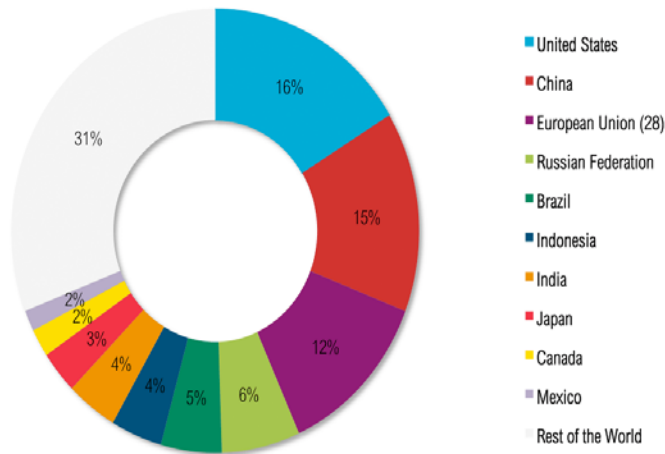


Source: Climate Change 2014 Synthesis Report

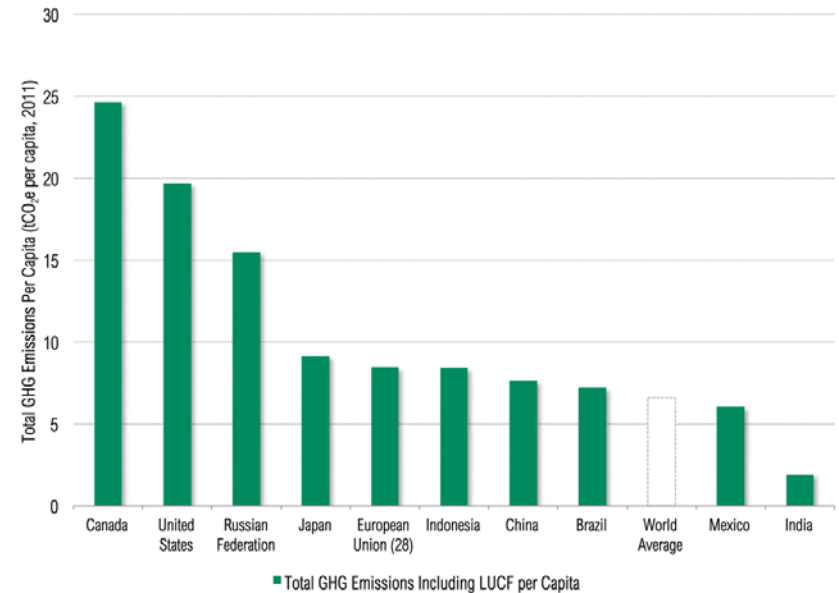
# 2. Why Paris COP21 is Important?

- For the 1<sup>st</sup> time, the two major emitters USA and China prepared to make a commitment

Cumulative GHG Emissions 1990–2011 (% of World Total)



Per Capita Emissions for Top 10 Emitters



Source: Adopted from World Resources Institute



# 3. Overview of COP21

## Agenda for COP21

- Two major issues of negotiation : CO2 emissions and finance.
- Pledges on reduction of CO2 emissions were already settled by Intended Nationally Determined Contributions or INDCs
- Major greenhouse gas emitters' climate pledges for COP21:

Country/ entity	Base year	Pledge to cut emissions
EU	1990	40% by 2030
US	2005	26% to 28% by 2025
China	2005	lower emissions per unit of GDP by 60% to 65% by 2030
India	2005	33 to 35 % by 2030
Brazil	2005	37%

- For the developing country another major issue was finance for adaptation, loss and damage and low carbon growth.

# 3. Overview of COP21

## South Asia in Paris COP21:

- South Asian countries are among some of the most climate affected countries
- Except for Nepal and Pakistan , all others pledged to reduce emissions
- Need for external support was highlighted to each country

Country	Co2 emission reduction Pledge in INDCs
Afghanistan	13.6% conditional*
Bangladesh	5% unconditional** 15% conditional
Bhutan	Pledge to be carbon neutral, and to make 60% of the country forest
India	33 to 35 % by 2030 compared to 2005 levels; 40% of electricity from non-fossil fuel sources
Maldives	10% unconditional 24% conditional
Pakistan	No measurable target
Srilanka	7% unconditional 23% conditional

\*conditional: with external support \*\*Unconditional: without external support



# 3. Overview of COP21

## Outcome of Paris COP21 :

Topic	Article number	Main statement
<b>Temperature target</b>	Article 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• limit global average warming to “well below” 2 degrees Celsius (2C), above pre-industrial levels</li><li>• To pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5C”.</li></ul>
<b>Differentiation between Countries:</b>	Article 2.2	flexible sharing of responsibilities, “in the light of different national circumstances”
<b>Long-term climate agreement</b>	Decision, Paragraph 20 and Paragraph 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Self-defined national climate action plans should outline mitigation pledges and should increase over time</li><li>• All nations from 2020 will present “nationally determined contributions” (NDCs) every five years</li></ul>
<b>Loss and damage</b>	Article 8	Cases of “Loss and Damage” will be addressed through a variety of means including “risk insurance facilities, climate risk pooling and other insurance solutions.

# 3. Overview of COP21



## Outcome of Paris COP21 :

Topic	Article number	Main statement
<b>Raising ambition in the short term</b>	Article 14.1	Going forward, countries would undertake these global “stock takes” every five years (2018, 2023 and so on), to keep up the level of ambition in cutting carbon emissions, adaptation and providing climate finance
<b>Carbon trading</b>	Articles 6.2 and 6.3; 6.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Countries can choose to “cooperate” in meeting their national emissions targets (NDCs), by trading emissions rights</li><li>• It establishes a “sustainable development mechanism” which would allow one country to pay for emissions reductions in another country, via a central body, and count these emissions reductions as its own.</li></ul>
<b>Climate finance</b>	Article 9.3 9.2; decision para 54	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• developed countries should take the lead in supplying finance, and “climate finance should represent a progression beyond previous efforts”, in other words grow over time.</li><li>• states that developing countries can also voluntarily provide climate finance.</li><li>• Countries agreed that \$100 billion annually would be the floor for climate finance going forward, beyond 2020</li></ul>
<b>Transparency Issues</b>	Article 13.1; Article 13.7; Paragraph 91	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It introduced an “enhanced transparency framework” both for mitigation and financial support. Under this framework, almost all countries would now “regularly” measure their emissions and report progress against their NDCs</li><li>• Decision says that this reporting would be at least every two years</li></ul>

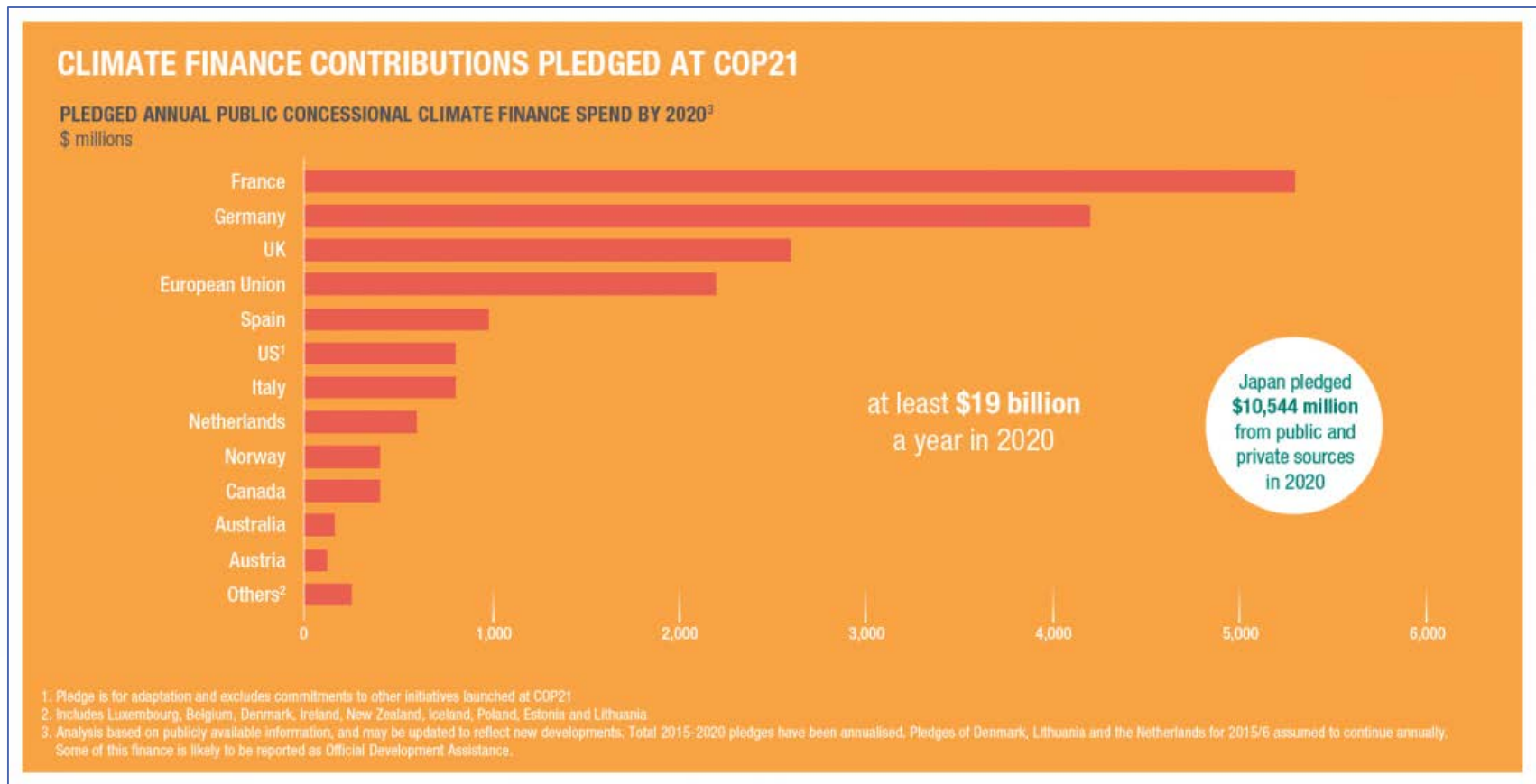


# 3. Overview of COP21

## Limitations of COP 21 :

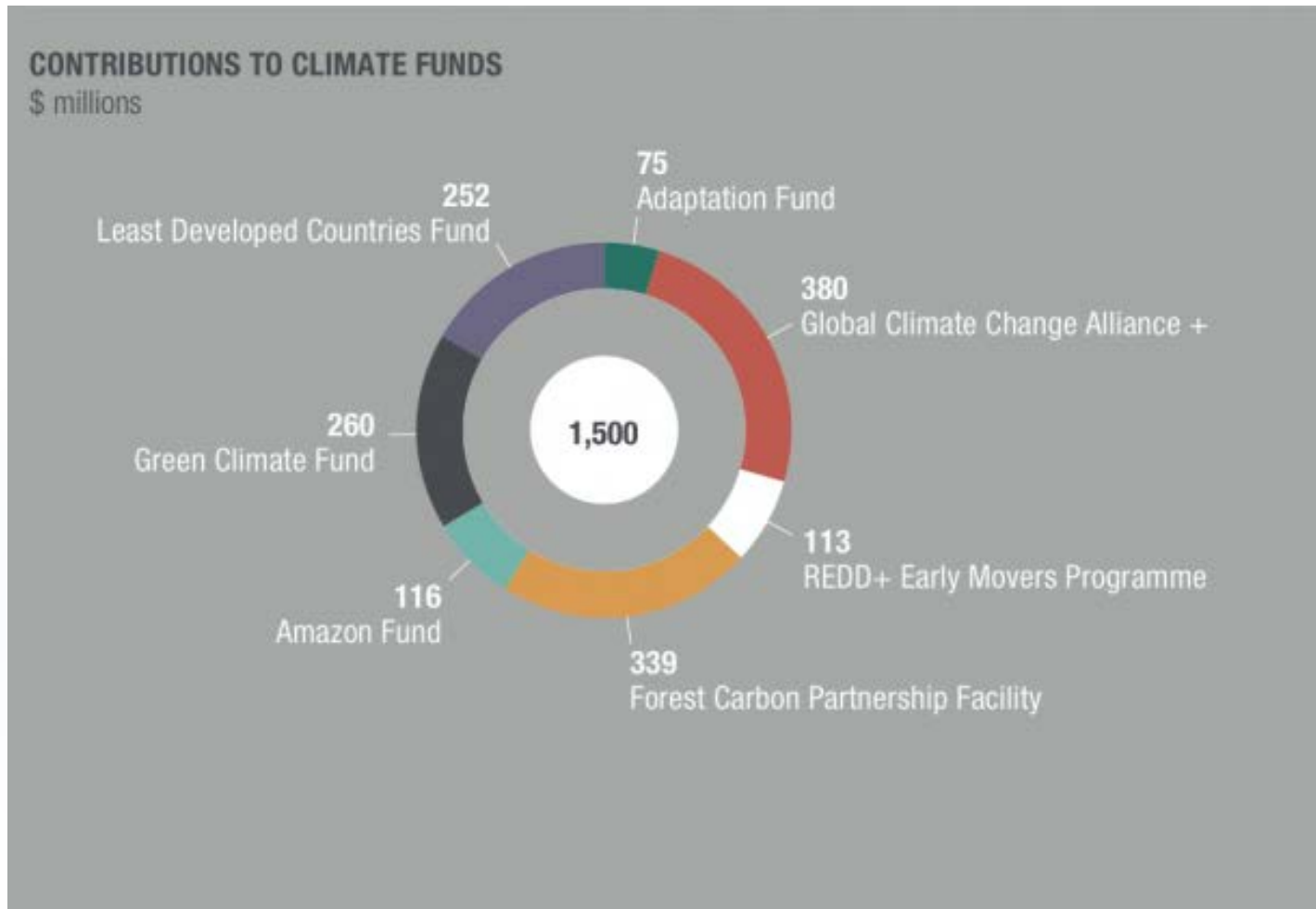
- The Paris agreement ended up balanced politically but not morally; it **does not reflect climate justice**; did not fully reflect the polluter pay principle
- No mention of specific measures for Parties to **decarbonise** their economies
- No mention of Carbon taxation. “**Carbon Tax**” is puts a price on each tonne of GHG emitted, therefore helping transition to green economies
- The number of people displaced by the effects of climate change is increasing everyday, but the agreement doesn't mention of “**Climate Refugee**” Problem.
- The countries that sign the agreement pledge to “reach global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible,” but *the text doesn't specify a date*
- Adaptation, and loss and damage are left in murky waters; No legal actions can be taken
- Although the Agreement for the first time recognises the concept of “loss and damage”. However, the Decision (Paragraph 52) makes clear that developed countries **will not accept liability for climate compensation**

# 4. Climate Finance



Source: Adopted from ODI; link: <http://www.odi.org/opinion/10196-infographic-climate-finance-pledges-cop21-paris>

# 4. Climate Finance

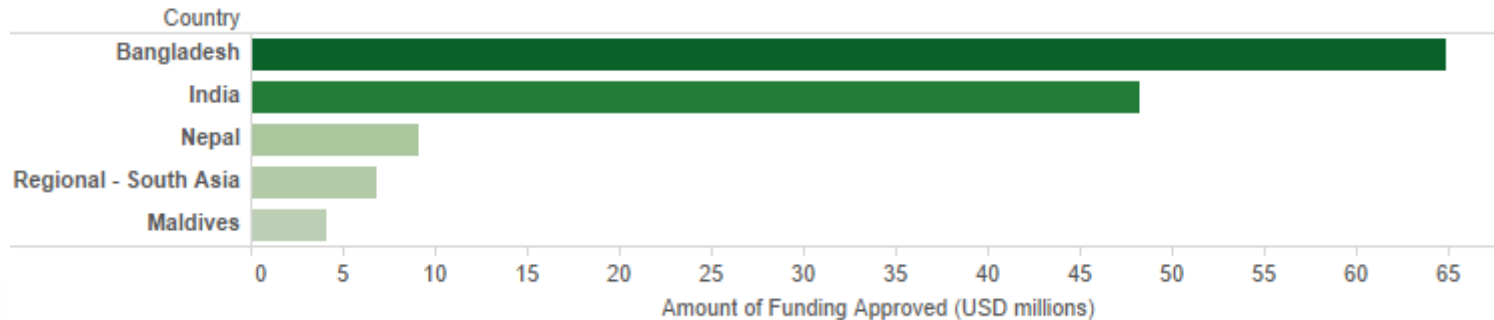


**Source:** Adopted from ODI ; link :<http://www.odi.org/opinion/10196-infographic-climate-finance-pledges-cop21-paris>

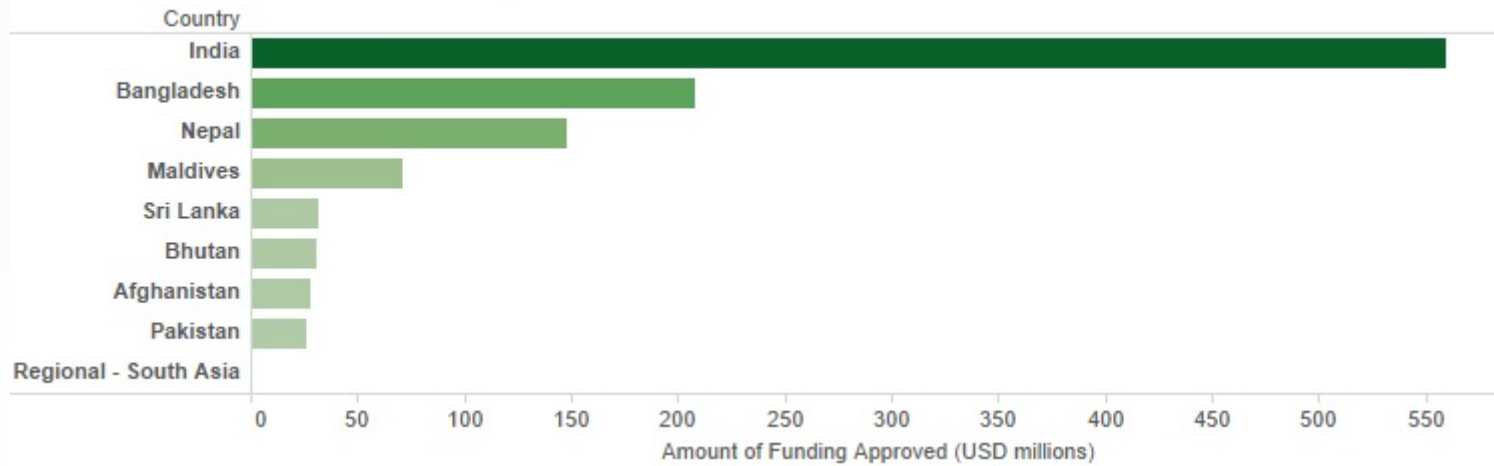
# 4. Climate Finance

## Climate finance in South Asia (As of November 2015 )

### Recipients of bilateral climate finance (excluding global projects)



### Multilateral climate finance recipients



Source: Adopted from Climate Funds update organisation; link : [www.climatefundsupdate.org/data](http://www.climatefundsupdate.org/data)

# 5. Assessment of the COP 21 outcome

- States
  - 184 countries pledged INDC; showing a **general enthusiasm** among countries to reach a deal in Paris.
  - Most of the world's leaders welcomed the Paris agreement saying that the action taken in Paris was historic
  - The Least Developed Countries (LDC) Group also welcomed the adoption of the new climate agreement saying "**not the perfect deal but it's the best deal**"
  - Nicaragua did not submit INDC declaring it won't legitimise '**failed mechanism**' with national plan as world still on track for dangerous climate change
- Private sector
  - Major international Companies like Unilever, Siemens welcomed the deal but also mentioned the need for setting consistent long-term policies on which investors can rely
  - It was also mentioned immense creativity and innovation of the private sector is needed to rise to the challenge of climate change

## 5. Assessment of the COP 21 outcome (contd.)

- Civil Society
  - The deal reached in Paris is **weak, containing no concrete increase in the level of ambition** to address climate change, and simply urges countries to do more over time
  - Paris deal has been called “a mixed bag”, arguing that governments had failed to put humanity’s interests above “**narrowly defined and short-term interests**”
  - The **Deal lacks a clear pathway** to keep temperature rises below 1.5C above pre-industrial levels; thus has left the goal unclear and vulnerable people in danger.



## 6. Bangladesh and COP21

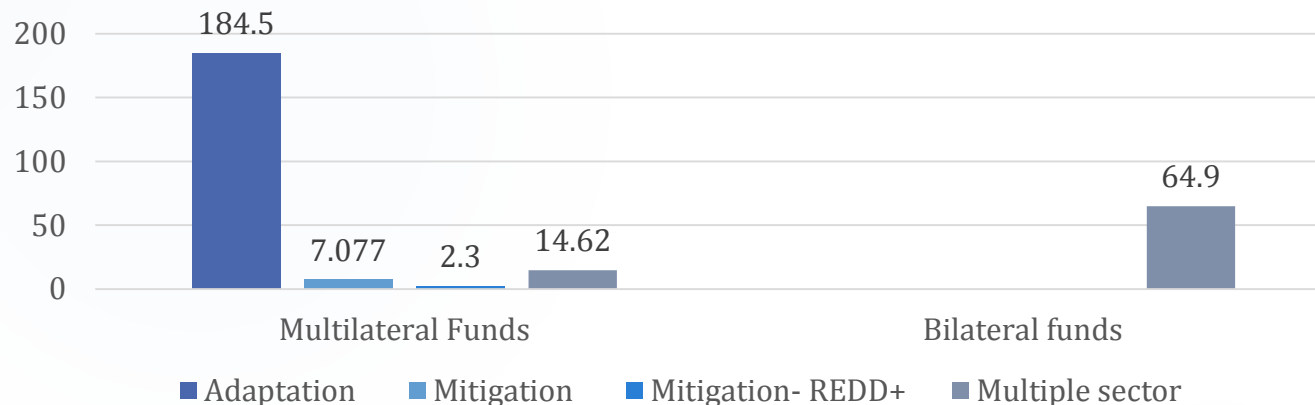
- Bangladesh is a very important actor of the climate negotiations and has been working for decades in the COP framework.
- In International Climate negotiations, Bangladesh is a bridge between the developing and developed countries.
- From the beginning that Bangladesh pushed for a legally binding agreement in Paris COP21;
- In it's INDC Bangladesh pledged an **unconditional 5% greenhouse** gas emissions cut by 2030, adding that with financing and technology support it **will cut emissions by 15%.**
- Before the summit it was declared that Bangladesh will demand a grant from the Green Climate Fund instead of a soft loan in the Paris Climate Change Conference

# 6. Bangladesh's and COP21

## Climate Finance in Bangladesh

- Bangladesh is already mobilising access to funds from the Green Climate fund
- In Addition Bangladesh has already established two climate funds:
  - Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund (BCCTF) by own budget allocation of \$100m
  - Bangladesh Climate Change Resilience Fund (BCCRF) is a multi-donor trust fund for climate change has channeled over \$188m in grant funds.

Current climate finance commitments to Bangladesh (as of October 2015)



Source: based on data from [www.climatefundsupdate.org/data](http://www.climatefundsupdate.org/data)

# 7. Way forward

*For world leaders, the hard work begins now*

## **For Global Community :**

- UNFCCC synthesis of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) are estimated to amount to almost 3°C warming by the end of the century.
- The next five years are critical for scaling up climate action across the world – before the Paris Agreement comes into force in 2020
- All countries, in particular the developed nations with mostly inadequate climate pledges, need to review their national mitigation plans.
- The agreed 2018 stocktake, combined with a mandated IPCC special report on 1.5°C must become the next big moment in our journey for climate justice.
- The powerful, big emitters, in particular, must do much more than currently agreed over the next 15 years.

# 7.Way forward

## For Bangladesh:

- Bangladesh has a good strategic framework aimed at tackling climate change
  - National Action Plan on Adaptation (NAPA) of 2005
  - Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP) of 2009.
- Bangladesh declared that it is adopting a two-fold strategy against climate change
  - increasing resilience to the impacts of climate change
  - achieve low-carbon and resilient development.
- Paris Agreement confirms the necessity for Bangladesh to both take action to adapt to keep lives and livelihoods safe in a changing climate, and to adopt a low-emission economy to continue growing as a prosperous country.
- Bangladesh has to invest in Green technology to graduate to a green economy path

## 8. Concluding remarks

- Paris Agreement is the first universal climate deal and a crucial instrument to limit and mitigate the negative impacts of climate change
- However, Paris agreement is not the end point, but rather a tipping point for the climate movement
- Developed and Developing countries have to fulfil their commitments in line with agreement
- Without continuous and ambitious measures from big emitter countries , combat against climate change can not succeed



*Thank You*