












Water Disasters: Sanitation, Poverty, and Peace

June 17, 2026



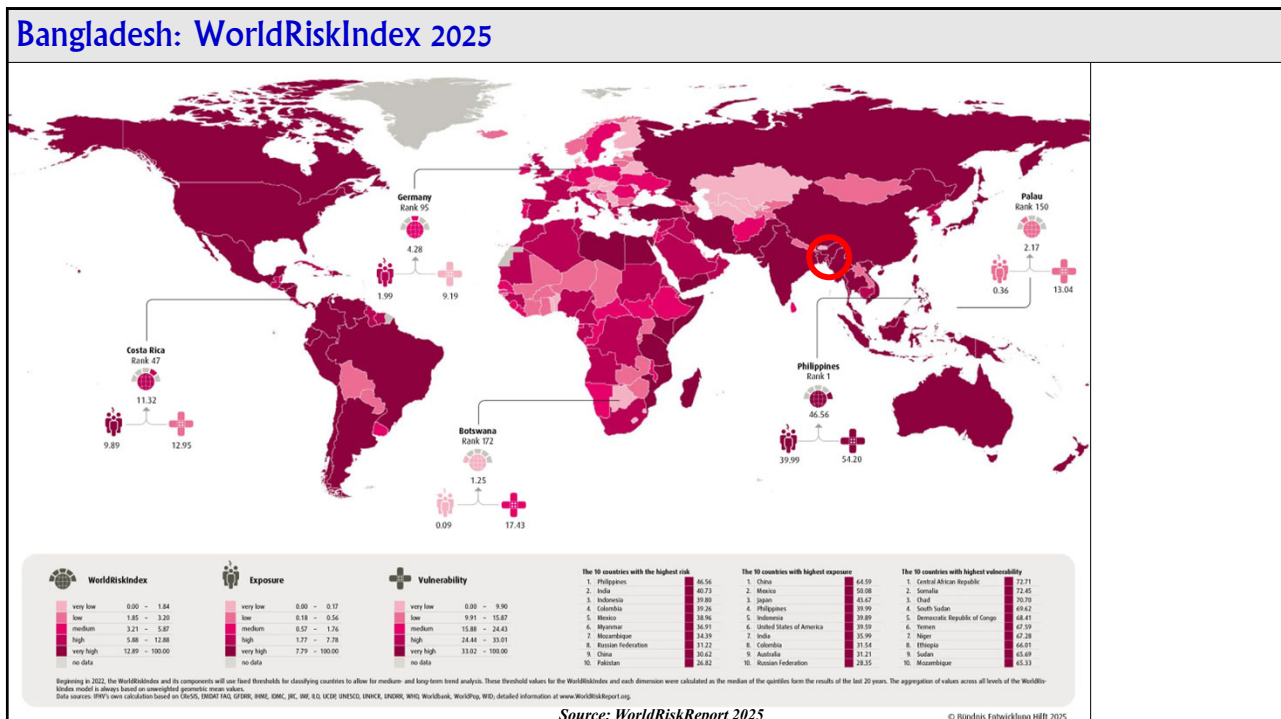
Presented by

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Executive Engineer

Bangladesh Water Development Board





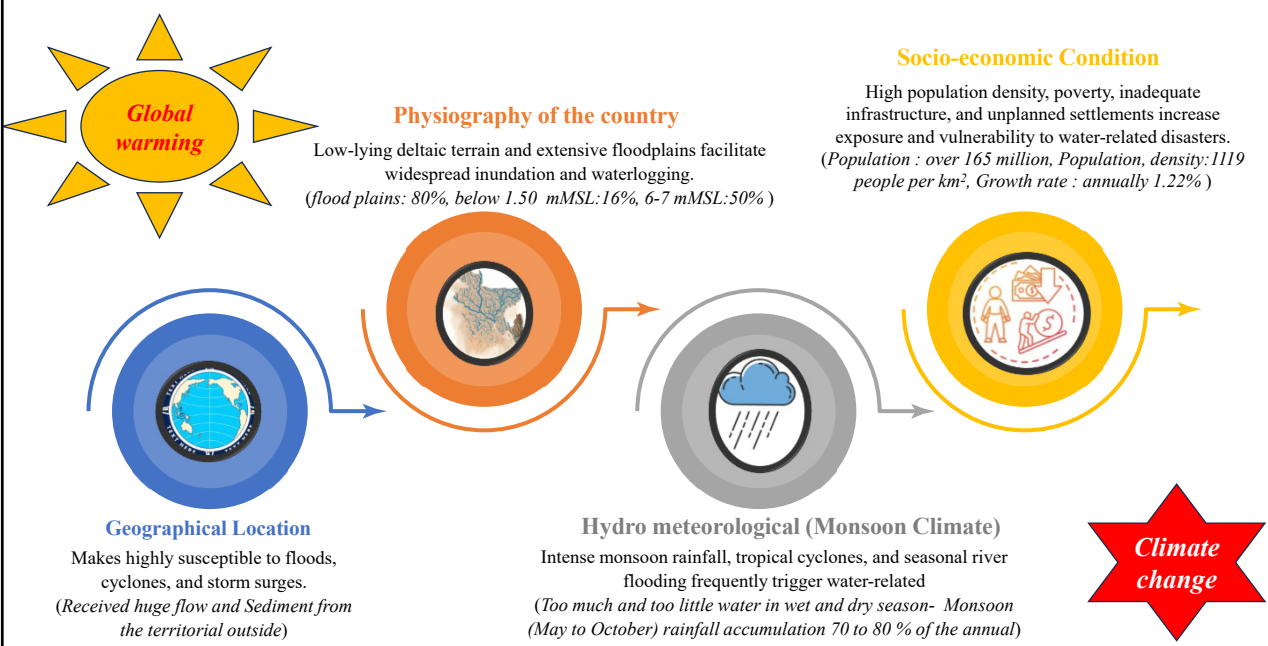
Bangladesh: WorldRiskIndex 2025

Disasters	Population Exposed	World Ranking
Flood	19,279,960	1 st out of 162
Cyclone	4,641,060	6 th out of 89
Drought	642,277	63 th out of 183
Earthquake	1,330,958	17 th out of 153
Tsunami	1,598,546	3 rd out of 76
Landslide	3,758	35 th out of 162

Source: Preventionweb, ISDR, 2012



Causes of High Natural Disaster Vulnerability in Bangladesh



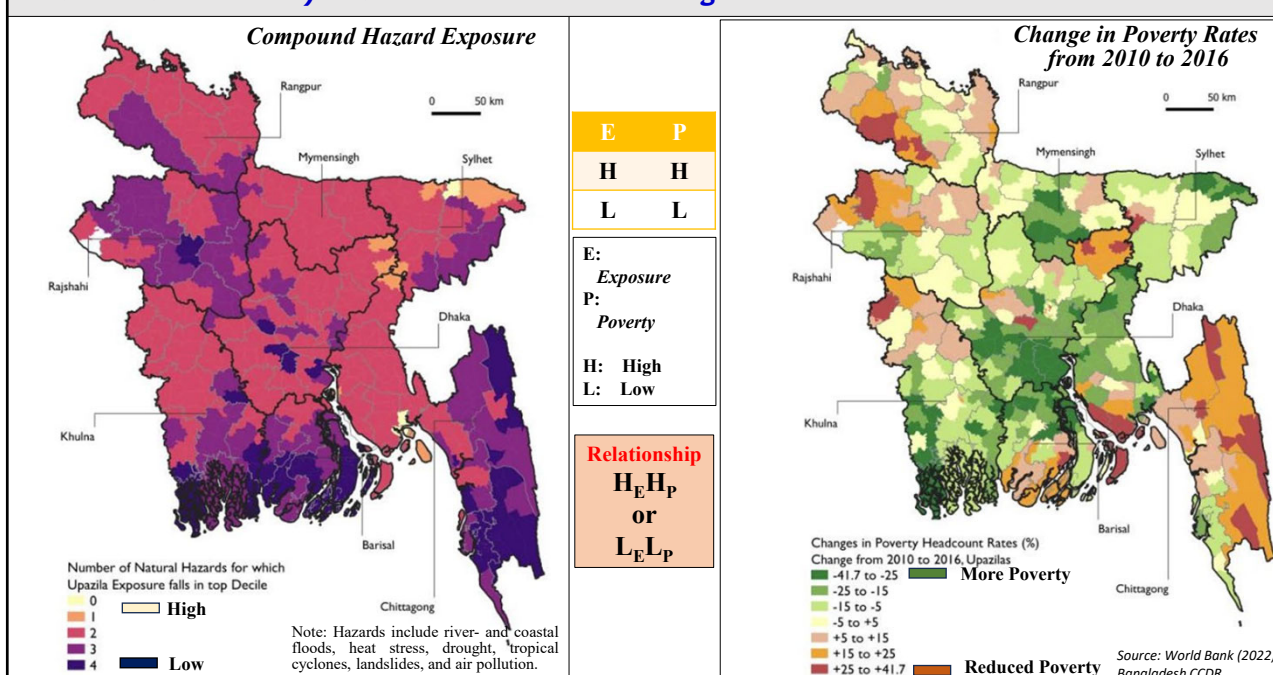
Disasters and Poverty: Barriers to Economic Progress

Records of Past Disasters in Bangladesh (2000-2023)

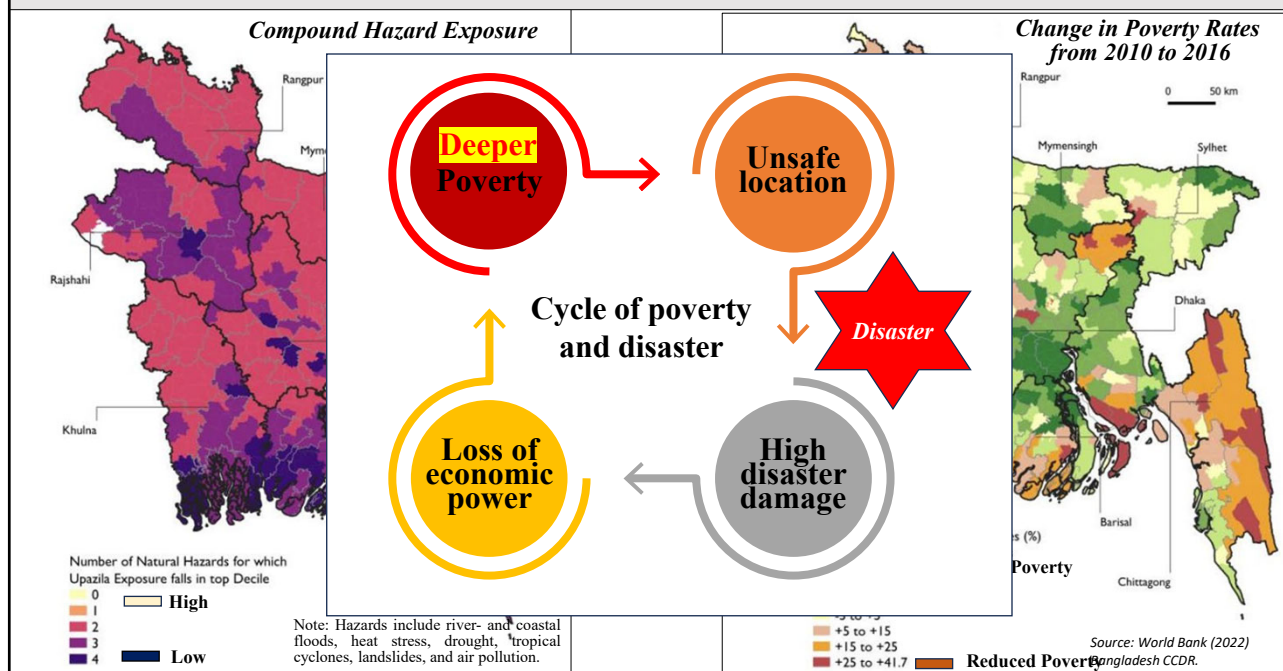
Hazards	Hazard Sub-categories	Event Counts	# of Deaths	# of Affected Population	Total damage (US\$1,000)
Drought	-	1	-	-	-
Earthquake	-	5	13	3,500	774,697
Extreme Temperature	-	14	1,552	378,000	-
Flood	Coastal Flood	1	1	-	-
	Flash Flood	9	170	6,734,197	849,753
	Flood (General)	9	712	29,131,015	1,710,700
	Riverine Flood	21	2,593	65,379,605	4,152,485
Land/mudslide	-	6	265	154,130	-
Storm	Lightening	8	206	60,000	4,939
	Severe weather	3	69	8,155	25,125
	Storm (General)	18	-	5	-
	Tornado	8	153	37,370	-
	Tropical Cyclone	31	5,294	27,321,036	6,098,439
Total		134	11,564	129,441,683	13,616,138

- Between 2000-2023, natural hazards affected **130 million** people and caused **US\$13.6 billion** in total damage.
- Floods and tropical cyclones** are the jointly accounted for about **88% of disaster-related fatalities, 99% of the affected population, and 94% of the total economic losses** recorded nationwide (2000–2023). *Source: IMF staff estimates based on EM-DAT.*

Disasters and Poverty: Barriers to Economic Progress



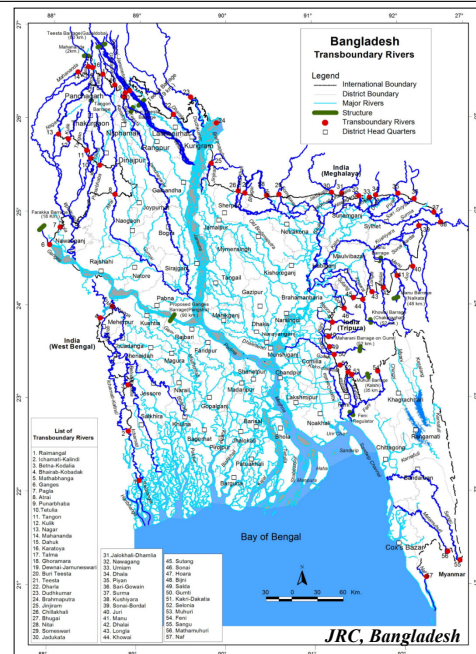
Disasters and Poverty: Barriers to Economic Progress



Water and Peace: Transboundary Rivers

- There *are 260 transboundary* rivers in the world
- Traversing around *145 countries*
- 54 rivers from India and 3 rivers from Myanmar
- India Constructed Farakka barrage on the Ganges in 1975
- A treaty was signed in 1996 for 30 years
- Many rivers are *affected by water diversion*
- Limited *sharing of hydrological data*
- Riverbank erosion along transboundary rivers may result in channel shifts, *potentially affecting the international boundary alignment*

More water level monitoring stations → improved flood forecast accuracy and lead time → reduced economic losses and loss of life.

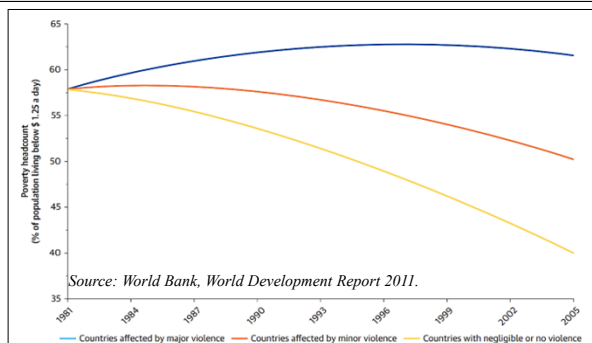


Disaster - Poverty – Peace

“Fierce competition for freshwater may well become a source of conflict and wars in the future”– Kofi Annan, 2001.

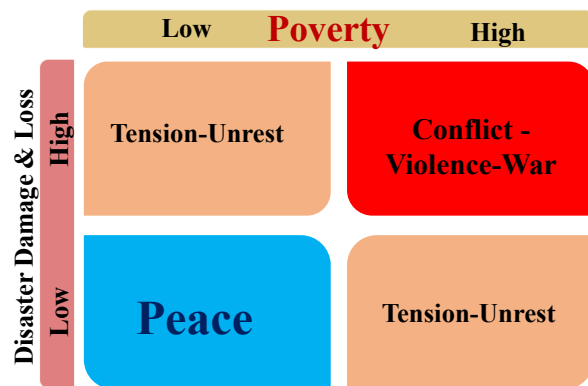


Disaster - Poverty – Peace



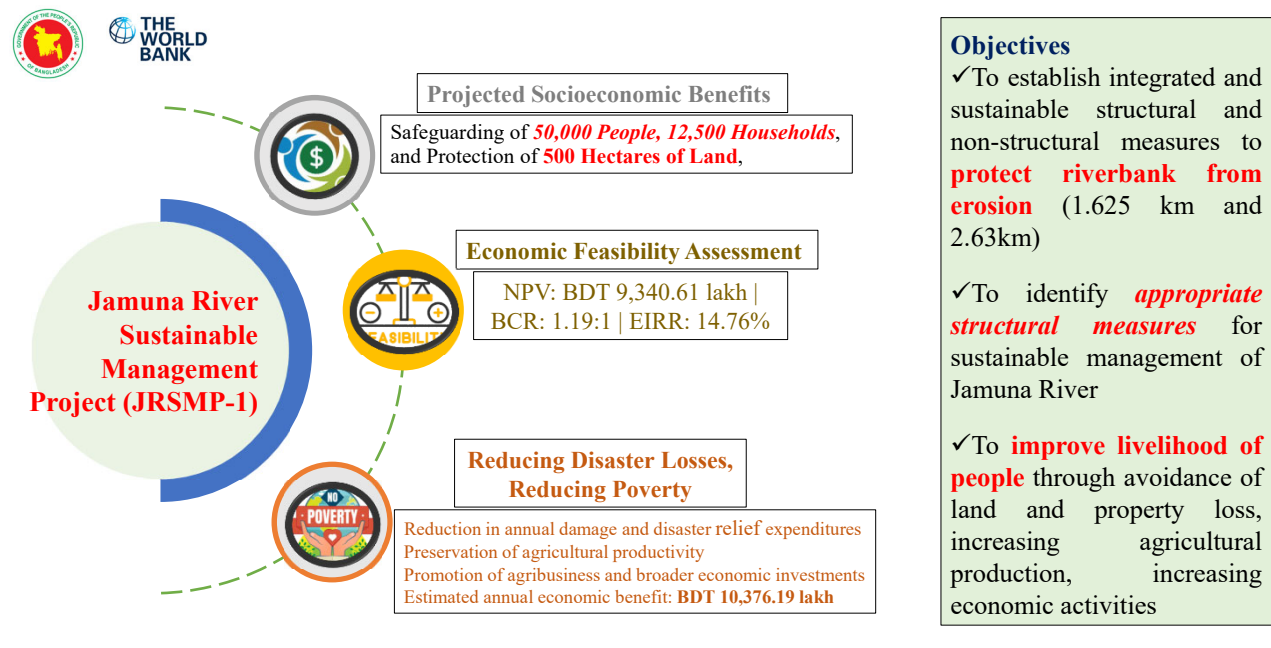
The Widening Poverty Gap between Countries Affected by Violence and Countries Not Affected

“Build resilience...END poverty...achieve sustainable PEACE....”

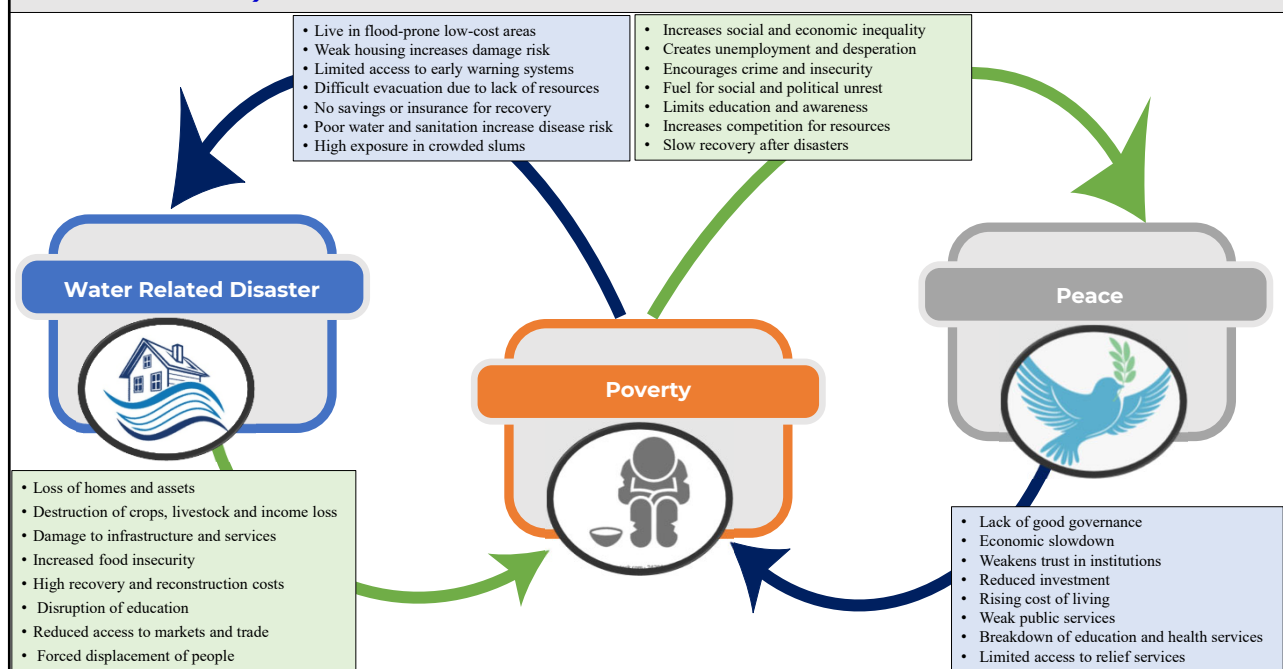


“Disasters deepen poverty, and undermine peace”

Bangladesh : Water-Related Disaster Risk Reduction Project Considerations



Disaster - Poverty – Peace





United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres

*"As humanity's most precious global common good, **water unites us all**. That's why water needs to be at the **centre of the global political agenda**."*

@ UN Water Conference 2023

Wave of Water



Water

A gift of nature, not a weapon of conflict

Wave of Peace



*Thank you for your kind
attention*