



# CAPACITY STRENGTHENING IN THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (LDCs) FOR ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE (CLACC)

CLACC NEWSLETTER

November 2010

## Human Resource Development in Climate Change Adaptation



## INTRODUCTION

Rapid and sustained action to build capacity for planning and implementing adaptation measures is needed if society is to effectively respond to the challenges posed by climate change and other forms of global environmental change. Nowhere is the need for capacity-building more urgent than in the developing world where negative effects from extreme climatic events may be compounded by poverty, environmental degradation, inadequate social safety nets, and/or poor governance.

The International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) has been building capacity relative to climate change issues for almost a decade in developing countries. One such initiative designed to achieve this is entitled "Capacity building in the Least Developed Countries on Adaptation to Climate Change (CLACC)." The CLACC programme was established in 2003 in recognition of the need to build civil society climate change capacity in the LDCs. CLACC decided to focus on non-government organizations (NGOs) that could effectively get involved with capacity building at both the government and local levels. At the time, however, very few NGOs had any significant climate change expertise. The institutions

selected however, had strong links with both government policy makers and communities in their respective countries, as well as convening power and research capacity, but few had worked on climate change.

CLACC began by identifying regional partners from the Regional and International Networking Group (RING), with whom the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) has a long history of collaboration. These regional partners then worked with IIED to choose CLACC partner organisations in LDCs in each of the four key regions in the world where most of the LDCs are located. All CLACC programme partners - both in the LDCs and the coordinating regional partners - have an established track record of working on national policy and on environmental and poverty reduction issues.

This special issue of the CLACC newsletter looks at one of the greatest achievements of the CLACC programme: the fact that several CLACC fellows who have left their original CLACC partner organisations continue to work on climate change issues in their own country (and in some cases abroad). Whilst this means that new replacement CLACC fellows often need to be trained on climate change adaptation, we believe that the fact that ex CLACC fellows are

in such strong demand from other organisations working on climate change clearly demonstrates how the CLACC programme as a whole has helped build climate change adaptation capacity in the LDCs over the last few years. The fellows who have been through the programme continue to inspire and encourage young researchers on climate change issues in their new roles. Here we bring to you some of the narrative accounts of those who have been through the programme, their achievements and their present activities. Read on for more captivating stories from ex-CLACC fellows below.

### Mozaharul Alam

*"I feel very proud about CLACC programme" says Babu*



Mozaharul Alam obtained his M.Sc degree in Geography in 1989 from Jahangirnagar University in Bangladesh. He joined Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS)

(<http://www.bcas.net>) in 1992 as a Researcher. While at BCAS he managed and coordinated several climate change studies of the organization. In 1994, joined the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of Bangladesh as a National Project Coordinator to formulate National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA). After successful completion of Bangladesh NAPA, he returned to BCAS in 1995 where he continued to perform his duties as the leader of the climate change team and programme. In 2009, he took up new responsibilities at United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as Regional Climate Change Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific Region. His current responsibility is to oversee and facilitate development and implementation of all climate change related projects in the region while ensuring overall consistency with the UNEP Programme of Work.

The International Institute for Environment and Development recognized his contribution to climate change and was therefore awarded the international fellowship under the Climate Change Programme for three years which started in 2006. He has also worked as Regional Fellow for South Asia Region for Capacity Strengthening for LDCs for Adaptation to Climate Change (CLACC)

which is being implemented by IIED. Mozaharul popularly known as 'Babu' by his peers, has conducted and coordinated significant amount of research on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation at national, regional and international levels. He has designed and implemented community based adaptation projects in Bangladesh and provided technical inputs on Community Based Adaptation to Climate Change (CBAA) project in East and Southern African countries. Recently, he joined the team of authors on IPCC as a lead author of the Working Group II of IPCC for the Fifth Assessment Report. Prior to that he was served as a contributing author to the Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Babu enjoyed his tenure as a regional CLACC fellow and he regards these professional years as rewarding in many aspects. One of the key aspects of the CLACC programme was working with diverse communities dealing with climate change adaptation ranging from grass-root community to policy makers at national and international level. Sharing cross-regional experiences was another key element of the CLACC. It is his hope that IIED will continue with the programme thus continuing

to build capacity for the young and mid-level professionals from least developed countries.

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## EVERHART NANGOMA

*"The fellowship provided many opportunities to me as an individual" says Everhart.*

Everhart Nangoma is an Environment / Natural Resources Management and Climate Change expert from Malawi. He attained his Bachelors Degree majoring in Environmental Studies and Development Studies with Demography as a minor. Over the years he has specialised in Grants Management for various donors and development partners that has included the EU, ECHO, USAID as well as DANIDA.

Everhart is now working with the European Union, Delegation of the Commission to Malawi as a Project Manager-NGO Thematic Budget Lines. He was initiated into the CLACC Programme in 2005 while working as an Environmental Expert for the Coordination Unit for the Rehabilitation of the Environment (CURE) ([www.sdnep.org.mw/enviro/cure](http://www.sdnep.org.mw/enviro/cure))

The Programme provided many opportunities to him. Firstly, he had the opportunity to network with other experts

from Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe where the regional CLACC fellow for Southern Africa is based. Secondly, the three months spent in Zimbabwe provided an in depth learning experience of Climate Change Science with the added benefit of spending time in the field in order to exemplify the issues that been taught. Thirdly, he has the opportunity to attend each and every COP/MOP Meeting from COP 11 in Montréal, 12 in Nairobi, 13 in Bali, 14 in Poznan and 15 in Copenhagen. He has also attended the SABSTA Meeting in Bonn as well as the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Community Based Adaptation Workshops in Dhaka and Dar es Salaam where he particularly followed and helped his country Malawi to negotiate issues on Adaptation. While attending such forums he networked and interacted with various climate change specialists who helped him shape his understanding of climate change science as well as adaptation issues which he believes are key to the developing countries such as Malawi. Fourthly, and as a result of the knowledge gained through the programme, Everhart contributed to the 2009 UNDP Human Development Report as well as the World Bank Development Report by providing case studies on Climate Change Impacts and

the Experiences on the NAPA Development Process in Malawi.

Everhart continues to provide support to the current CLACC Fellow in Malawi. Globally he would like to continue with the networking through forums that include the COP/MOP, CBA and many other gatherings. He would also like to continue with research consultations as well as being a resource person for his country. Everhart looks forward to working on Climate Change and Adaptation work related Environment in the near future as he firmly believes that this is his calling!

This approach has proved to be very successful indeed, says Everhart. There has been a tremendous exchange of ideas between and among the CLACC Fellow themselves i.e. particularly among the Southern, Eastern, and Western African Clusters and between the African Clusters and the South East Asian Cluster in general on Adaptation issues. To others who would like to take this approach, he recommends that re-inventing the wheel may not be very helpful but that instead they should invest in the same CLACC Programme by replicating the format elsewhere. There is still more that can be achieved, hence continuing to support the current stream of

CLACC Fellows would help to further strengthen their work.

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### VICTOR ORINDI

*“CLACC brought me to speed with climate change adaptation and negotiation issues”*



Victor was initiated in the programme in 2004 as a Regional Fellow for East Africa while based at the African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS) ([www.acts.or.ke](http://www.acts.or.ke)). He did his fellowship at CICERO in Norway and continued with CLACC until September 2006 when he became an ex-fellow. The programme was very useful especially with regards to climate change adaptation and negotiation issues. At that time he had never attended SBSTA or Climate COPs before and he got the opportunity

to attend such meetings through the programme.

The mentoring by more seasoned members of the network improved his confidence greatly and also created new opportunities (for example new research projects/ activities) which benefited his institution as well. He would like to continue mentoring the current fellows and work with them whenever possible. He has researched and published on managing current climate risks, mainstreaming climate change in development process and on monitoring and evaluation of adaptive capacity.

Victor has now joined the Ministry of State for the Development of Northern Kenya and Other Arid Lands as a Climate Change Advisor with responsibility of ensuring that Climate Change is mainstreamed in development plans and policies. Over the last four years he worked as a Research Officer for the Climate Change Adaptation in Africa (CCAA) - a Research and Capacity Building Programme for Africa funded by British DFID and the Canadian IDRC. Victor also taught at Kenyatta University for a year before joining ACTS.

He has been an IIED international Fellow since 2006 to date and will continue to collaborate with colleagues from IIED on mainstreaming work in Kenya.

His words of wisdom to those who would like to take up this approach are that Capacity building is a long-term process. You need patience and determination in addition to resources in order to succeed. Trust and champions are also key ingredients for people coming from different backgrounds and a high level of understanding to work harmoniously.

In addition to the current activities, CLACC could include more substantive research components into the scheme like the work on health and cities where fellows can publish their publications to further strengthen their CVs.

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### Johannes Chigwada

*"I have been mentored by the top brass in climate change and built my confidence"*



Johannes was initiated in the programme while working at ZERO Regional Environment Organization ([www.zero-regional.com](http://www.zero-regional.com)) as a regional

CLACC fellow for Southern Africa in 2004. He undertook a fellowship training at Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) in Germany. The CLACC fellowship has enabled him to interact with climate change experts who have mentored him over the years. He has also managed to build his confidence in whatever he does especially with regards to sustainable development issues.

"As government officials and with Director of Engineering at UNESCO Paris office attended COP 4 in Argentina in 1998, since we had not gone through the fellowship, we did not know whom to approach in UNFCCC secretariat. As result were really lost a decade to have influenced the events as we were overwhelmed says Johannes. Having hosted the World Solar Summit in 1996 Zimbabwe wanted a low carbon developmental path for most countries. Where does quote end??

Johannes attended COP and SBSTA/SBI meetings yearly from 2004 to 2009. It was through the CLACC fellowship, that he was appointed to various positions including, the Chairman of the Southern African Climate Action Network from 2005 to 2007, a board member of Climate Action Network International from 2006 to 2007 and the Southern African Climate Justice Alliance steering committee member of a coalition of environmental

and developmental civil society organization in 2008. This organization was formed in 2008 with the support of NEPAD AU and Oxfam in South Africa during the African Ministers of environment conference with a view to enable African Civil Society to speak with one voice in important meetings like UNFCCC.

He currently uses the capacity gained from this fellowship to impart practical knowledge to communities on adaption and mitigation measures. He is now working with the Climate Change and Sustainable Development Network and Pan African Climate Justice Alliance to raise climate change awareness in Government, church organizations and communities at regional and national levels.

He advocates for a greater level of information exchange and experience sharing, including possible practical exchange visits among the CLACC fellows. Those countries interested in joining the fellowship should engage the national or regional CLACC fellows for guidance.

He also proposes that aspirants with resources should be attachments to PIK, SEI, IIED etc (im not sure I understand what you are trying to say here). Resources permitting, more countries should be involved in the programme in Africa as the continent has the highest

number of least developed countries. The fellowship helps in building negotiation capacity on climate change issues so more resources are required for developing countries to participate effectively.

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### CYNTHIA BRENDA AWUOR

*"I gained a good understanding of international climate change policy"*



Cynthia Awuor works as a Community Based Adaptation Advisor for CARE International's Adaptation Learning Programme in Africa. She is based in Nairobi, Kenya. She has been involved in compiling two practitioner-oriented Toolkits on integrating climate change adaptation into development projects and development of Community Based Adaptation projects. She undertakes capacity development of, and provided technical support to project teams and partners in integration

of climate change adaptation and development of Community Based Adaptation projects.

Cynthia was a CLACC Fellow for East Africa, while working for the African Centre for Technology Studies (<http://www.acts.or.ke>) from September 2006 to September 2008. Through the Fellowship, she gained a good understanding of international climate change policy and key issues for developing countries. She participated in several UNFCCC meetings including the conference of Parties, SBs and one of the Adaptation Fund Board's meetings. The fellowship also enabled her to engage in thematic climate change research, publish and present results to policy and decision makers, researchers, donors and other actors. She also mentored new CLACC Fellows and contributed to enhancing their capacity on climate change advocacy and research. Through the support and guidance that IIED provided to CLACC Fellows, Cynthia was involved in setting up a civil society network on climate change (the Kenya Climate change Forum) that has now evolved into the Kenya Climate Change Working Group. This working group continues to successfully engage with the government on national climate policy. Members have provided input into various national policy documents dealing with climate change, including the

National Climate Change Response Strategy, and the Draft National Global Warming Bill. She also gained new friends and colleagues from all the CLACC partner countries and benefited from South-South learning.

Cynthia continues to use the knowledge, skills and contacts gained through the CLACC Fellowship Programme to provide technical support on CBA to her colleagues in the Adaptation Learning Programme in Africa. She continues to engage in advocacy on climate change adaptation issues at national to international levels, highlighting the need for resources to be channeled towards supporting poor and vulnerable people and communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change, among other things.

Cynthia would like to continue to engage with current CLACC Fellows in research-based reflective learning, information and knowledge sharing on community based adaptation. Her recommendation to others is to facilitate and support more climate action research initiatives by developing country researchers in developing countries through similar initiatives. She suggests that the CLACC Fellowship programme hosts regular reflective learning and mentorship forums bringing together both former and current

fellows to learn together and explore new research themes.

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### BRIAN OTIENDE

*“My career path has been greatly influenced by the CLACC mentorship programme”*

Brian Otiende is an environmental scientist by training and profession. He holds a Masters degree in Managing Environmental Change (University of St Andrews, Scotland UK) and a Bachelors in Atmospheric Science (University of Nairobi, Kenya). Over the last 5 years, Brian has been actively engaged as a climate change policy researcher and practitioner with Oxfam GB and the African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS) in Kenya.

Brian's career path has been greatly shaped and influenced by CLACC's mentorship programme under the guidance of Dr. Saleemul Huq of the International Institute of Environment and Development (IIED) and CLACC Fellows while at ACTS from 2005 to 2009. During this period he was involved in and contributed to various CLACC initiatives at the national, regional and international level. These include; research on Climate

Change and Human Health, Climate Change and Cities, capacity building for Least Developed Country Negotiators, participation in the National Climate Change Activities Coordinating Committee, participating as part of the Kenyan delegation to COP12, establishing a climate change resource centre, organizing the Development and Climate Days during COP12 held in Nairobi, building the capacity of national NGO's engagement on climate change and development issues and processes in Kenya and developing countries at large such as the National Communication, National Climate Change Response Strategy and Civil society led climate change campaigning and policy advocacy efforts at the national and international policy discourse platforms. He has also benefited from other mentorship opportunities as a result of his involvement within the CLACC programme such as the Germanwatch Climate Change Mentorship Programme.

Over the last two years, Brian has been working as a Climate Change Officer with Oxfam GB in Kenya where he has been responsible for mainstreaming climate change in Oxfam's and partner's development, humanitarian, advocacy & campaigning activities in Kenya's Arid and Semi Arid Lands and

Urban programming, mobilizing and coordinating Kenyan civil society's voice and action on climate change through the Kenya Climate Change Working Group, promoting Civil society engagement with national, regional and international stakeholders e.g. government and parliamentarians and the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance, implementing Climate Hearings in Kenya, coordinating climate change vulnerability, risks and adaptation amongst urban poor dwellers in Nairobi, mobilizing support for the African Common Position on Climate Change, national and regional advocacy work on climate change to influence policy processes such as the National Climate Change Strategy, African Common Position and East African Community Climate Change policy initiatives.

Brian has also contributed to the existing body of knowledge on climate change through publications including; The Economic Impacts of Climate Change in Kenya: Riparian Flood Impacts and Cost of Adaptation Case Study (SEI, 2009), Risk Assessment for Extreme Riverine Floods in Kenya: A Tool for Flood Risk Management (2008), Mapping Climate Change Vulnerability and Poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa (ILRI, 2006), Response to climate Change and Opportunities for Sustainable

Development in Kenya (GoK, 2006, Climate Change and the Urban poor: Risk and Resilience in 15 of the World's Most Vulnerable Cities (IIED, 2009).

In cognizance of the critical role that the CLACC programme has contributed to his career development and achievements to date, he would like to thank the entire CLACC Team for their continued support over the years. He continues to be affiliated to CLACC, support professional engagement and contribute to Africa's agenda within the climate change negotiation process under the UNFCCC. In addition, he would like to mentor other upcoming young professionals in African developing countries and confidently recommends them to the programme.

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#### BIMAL RAJ REGMI

*"CLACC fellowship is my most desired and successful programme in my career"*



Bimal is a Climate change and natural resources adviser with DFID Nepal. A role he took up in August 2009. His expertise is in Climate change and Natural resource management. He has more than 11 years of experiences in research, development and policy related to climate change and natural resource management. His current job involves helping DFID and the government of Nepal to deliver on climate change related work. His main focus is forestry and climate change related projects at DFID.

Bimal was initiated into the programme in 2002 where he worked as a programme coordinator at Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (2002-2009)([www.libird.org](http://www.libird.org)). CLACC fellowship was his most desired and successful programme in his career. It provided him with exposure and learning opportunities on climate change and particularly community based adaptation. He got the opportunity to do action research, networking with NGO's and supporting the government of Nepal in meeting its national and international priorities. It is also through the fellowship that he gained knowledge, skills and art of working more effectively and efficiently in climate change areas. This has proved an asset to his career and current professional engagements.

Bimal would like to be involved in the communication loop so that he can share his experiences and learning as well as learn from new CLACC fellows. He will be more than happy to provide mentoring support to the new CLACC fellows. His words of wisdom are: by involving young professionals from civil society and challenging them to be more innovative as a change agent- that this is something others can learn and benefit from. His final words of wisdom are: "We have to promote more and more CLACC fellows in the country. There must be 100 CLACC fellows in each Least Developed Country (LDC)"

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#### **DR. SALIMATA WADE.**

*"I appreciate the opportunity to practise and improve my English while learning about how to connect climate change matter with development activities"*

Dr. Wade joined the CLACC fellowship programme in 2005 while at ENDA Energie. ([www://energie.enda.sn](http://www://energie.enda.sn)). During that period she learnt a lot about how to reach out to non-English speaking nations. CLACC had more activities in English speaking nations at that time except Mozambique, a Portuguese speaking country. Salimata coordinated the West

Africa group. She spent most of her time integrating the CLACC Program to the Francophone countries, considering that the only problem and constraint was not translating document from English into French, but being aware that the cultural approach was essential on a double aspect. Francophone countries have different approaches and institutional organizations. She worked around the targets of the program, by communicating to them as well as working with other stakeholders and partners. The process took into account local languages and cultures to find the most adaptive way to communicate the CLACC Program at the local level.

Together with the West African team, she learnt a lot about the existing literature, the network activities of the CAN group in which she was the regional coordinator for Francophone countries. She spent her research period at IIED in London and in a partner organization in Oxford. To this date she appreciates the opportunity to practice and improve her English and identify work previously done in English exclusively and how best to inform the francophone process.

The CLACC process and model was interesting because of the large exchange of experience possible within the region (West Africa) and from different regions of the large African continent (East, West

and South Africa) and on the other hand between countries from Africa and Asia. Salimata learnt the differences especially in the implementation of the CLACC process within regions, the global culture context (institution, organization from civil society and the grassroots communities themselves).

Regarding the current CLACC fellow she recommends mentorship to those fellows who haven't previously been involved with climate change issues. In a more general way, the support could be seen as a fruitful exchange of experiences as she is always interested in CC and adaptation issues and working on adaptation strategies in urban areas. It could be profitable for her to remain involved in some of the networking activities so as to benefit from the networking work she made during the period she was a CLACC fellow.

Salimata continues to practice what she learned from the CLACC program (process, strategy, activities) to improve her current activities. For example she learned the way to adapt a general process designed at a global level (IIED, London) to a specific environment as francophone countries and transfer that lesson to the current context she is working in. She continues to work with development organizations to integrate climate change issue in their strategic plans and activities. One no-

table contribution is integrating climate change issues into the curriculum especially Geography courses as she continues to pursue her career as a university Lecturer. *More widely, the benefit has been to be able to strengthen the development activities in which she is still involved integrating the lessons learnt from the climate change literature.*

Her words of wisdom to the programme: The Programme could be improved by targeting children and youth. This can be done through periodic publications that are produced by children themselves. According to Salimata, targeting such an audience improves awareness on adaptation strategy.

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## OUMAR SANGO

*"I managed to establish a strong relationship with Malian Delegates. Thanks to CLACC programme"*



Oumar is currently the Climate Change Adviser on Oxfam GB Livelihoods Programme based in Mali (West Africa). Before joining Oxfam, he was a CLACC Fellow and Project Officer for the Malian NGO called AMADE-PELCODE (Malian Association for Environmental Development, Protection, and Desert Control), based in Mali. He was responsible for the implementation of the CLACC activities with IIED support on climate change.

Oumar has been the CLACC Fellow for Mali from August 2005 to February 2009 and has participated in numerous international conferences and seminars, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). As a CLACC fellow, he has had the opportunity to attend UNFCCC Meeting COP/MOP Meeting from SBSTA 24<sup>th</sup> in Bonn, COP 12<sup>th</sup> in Nairobi, 13<sup>th</sup> in Bali, and 15<sup>th</sup> in Copenhagen. He has also attended the SABSTA Meeting in Bonn as well as the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Community Based Adaptation Workshops in Dhaka and Dar es Salaam respectively.

CLACC network allows me to know and understand more about climate change issues, to establish a strong

relationship with Malian delegates under UNFCCC process and to mobilize Malian NGO on Climate Change issues.

He was a National Consultant at "Segou Regional Assembly Local Elected Representatives' Capacity Building Workshop on climate change" in June 2008 and a participant in the "International seminar on climate change, ecosystems and energy" held in Bamako, Mali in May 2008.

He has also acted as a consultant for the second National Communication under UNFCCC of Mali. He is also an active member of the Malian civil society network on climate change.

With a master's degree in Sociology-Anthropology, Oumar has worked extensively with women's groups and although he specializes in gender and development, he also has an interest and experience in organizational and institutional development, strategic planning for organization development and human resources management and development. His other areas of interest include: vulnerability and adaptation to climate change; reproductive health; decentralization and local governance.

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## APAR PAUDYAL

“If I wouldn’t have received CLACC fellowship, it would have been virtually impossible to understand the global debate and direction that the world needs to take pace on climate change adaptation.”



Apar is an environmental scientist by training. He holds an MSc in Environmental Science from Tribhuvan University, Nepal. Mr. Apar received two year’s mentorship (2006-2008) from the Resources Himalaya Foundation where he excelled in the field of biology, park-people conflict issues, GIS and database management system. He joined Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD) ([www.libird.org](http://www.libird.org)) in October, 2008 as a climate change programme officer. He joined the CLACC programme while at LI-BIRD to work on adaptation to climate change in Nepal. Since then, he was involved in global climate negotiations and strengthening civil society’s network on climate change in Nepal to raise awareness and build capacity of NGO members

on climate change adaptation, research and development work. He established Google group discussion platform for members of NGO group on climate change in Nepal, published network bulletin, fact sheet, conducted several awareness raising, capacity building programmes and participatory agro-biodiversity & vulnerability assessment research. He was also engaged in national civil societies’ network in Nepal and provided input to Agriculture and Food Security thematic working group of National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) as a member.

Since June 2010, he has been working with Practical Action Nepal on a project called ‘Reducing vulnerability and looking after identification of community based vulnerability assessment, risk mapping and adaptation planning tools and methods’. His key areas of interest are community vulnerability assessment, climate adaptation assessment, climate risk mapping, sector adaptation planning, design and implementation.

According to Apar, the CLACC fellowship is extremely useful. It is through the programme that learning through participation at national and international events can be achieved. It also provides a forum for climate change initiatives to work on community based adaptation approaches at the local level can be shared. As a CLACC fellow, he was engaged in climate

change issues i) by encouraging civil society organizations to raise awareness, build capacity and adaptation piloting ii) action research, vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning exercise at local level iii) strengthen publication and documentation system for NGO members iv) piloted Google Group Discussion platform for NGO members to share latest happenings on climate change v) Participated in key national and international climate meetings and conferences.

The capacity gained from the CLACC fellowship has helped Apar in many ways. He continues to advance his work on climate change, especially on community based adaptation. ‘If I wouldn’t have received CLACC fellowship, it would have been virtually impossible to understand the global debate and direction that world needs to take pace on climate change adaptation.’ Nepal being one of the vulnerable countries to climate change, the fellowship has been extremely helpful to gain insights on urgent and immediate needs on adaptation, to set priorities and work on making communities resilient to climate change. CLACC fellowship provided him a ladder to improve his knowledge on climate change issues in Nepal.

Apar is now working with Practical Action Nepal and looking after identification of community based vulnerability assessment, risk mapping and

adaptation planning tools and methods. This assignment helps to foster improved understanding for managing climate change and enforcing environmental protection at all levels. In particular, the capacity of district and local governments are taken into consideration to enhance support to local level institutions and plans their own development activities by ensuring environmental management and protection practices. And prepare overall road map to mainstream environmental and climate change concerns within sub-national governance. The Community based vulnerability assessment; risk mapping and adaptation planning initiatives will support the district development committees and village development committees to create action plans at the local level. The scope of the work will be completed in four phases 1) Inception/Agreement of methodology ii) Piloting of methodology iii) Methodology refinement and iv) dissemination and training. He continues to work closely with the current CLACC fellow. He advocates for a continued mentorship to the new fellows. This will help to set priorities for work in the country and hopefully bring change in Nepal. He proposes a network of CLACC fellows in Nepal to be formed. This will set out an action plan for the current CLACC fellow or the year.

Apar proposes the following for the programme:

The network strengthening is indeed a continuous process and those grass root civil society's organizations who are aware of the climate change issues further need systematic capacity building in order to generate regional issues and link it to the national policy making process as well as piloting and implementation of climate resilience activities. The network activities should now focus on strengthening community led processes, based on communities' priorities, needs, knowledge and capacity to plan for and cope with the impacts of climate change.

If it is feasible, the number of country CLACC fellowships should be increased by allocating them to other organizations as well. So that, in-country network of CLACC will be established to track the occurrences of climate change and provide input to policy making process in-country.

Further suggested actions for the CLACC fellowship that requires further investment are i) systematic social and biological research and studies ii) awareness raising and capacity building iii) piloting-implementation of the local adaptation activities guided by country NAPA iv) strengthen publication and information exchange iv) Support and provide input to National/International initiatives on climate change.

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### Regional Civil Society Networking on climate change

Two regional meetings were held in Nairobi-Kenya in July 2010 and Dakar-Senegal in August 2010. The aim was to strengthen civil society capacity to adapt to climate change in vulnerable regions. The CLACC programme has established civil society networks in 15 Least Developed Countries (LDCs) with a view to strengthening and coordinating civil society action on climate change in each of these countries. Regular group meetings in each country, also involving the media, have helped raise awareness about climate change issues amongst participating NGOs and also civil society more broadly, but such knowledge sharing and capacity building has also extended outside the immediate CLACC network and countries to regional levels. The main outputs were;

- i. Civil society capacity on climate change built at the regional level in vulnerable parts of the world
- ii. Coordination of knowledge-sharing, advocacy and lobbying activities at the regional level amongst participating civil society networks strengthened in preparation for COP16 and other international/regional climate change policy arenas.
- iii. Pro-poor adaptation policy making and plan-

ning supported at a regional level with a focus on those most vulnerable.

### Community Based Adaptation International Conference

The Environmental Protection and Management Services (EPMS), Tanzania- a CLACC partner organization hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Community Based Adaptation (CBA) to Climate Change in Dar-es Salaam Tanzania from 21<sup>st</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

The Fifth CBA conference: Scaling Up: Beyond Pilots will be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh from the 24<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> of March 2011. The conference aims to share the latest developments in adaptation planning and practices, priority sectors and measures at different levels, and dissemination of knowledge among stakeholders and communities. The meeting will be co-organized by IIED and BCAS – a CLACC partner. For more information

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in December 2010. The meeting will review the progress of CLACC activities and review future network activities.

## CLACC NEWS

### Funding

The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs has agreed to fund a large Southern Capacity Building Initiative. This will enable the team to continue with CLACC networking activities over the next three years.

Comic Relief has provided financial support to 7 CLACC fellows to attend the COP meeting in Mexico 2010 and the CBA conference in Bangladesh in 2011. They will also be supporting some practical community-based adaptation projects.

### CLACC Project team meeting

The network will convene its annual team meeting in Cancun

### New Team Members

Krishna Lamsal holds a masters degree in environmental science (specialisation: mountain environment) from Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal. He has been involved and participated in climate change research, trainings and workshops. He has expertise in climate change and impact assessment, vulnerability assessment and climate adaptation, GIS, community development and natural resource management.

Krishna takes over from Apar Paudyal.

CLACC is pleased to welcome Krishna and extend its appreciation to Apar the outgoing CLACC Fellow for his diligence and commitment in executing CLACC projects in Nepal.

## CLACC TEAM MEMBERS

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Development Network for Indigenous Voluntary Association (DENIVA), Uganda: [www.deniva.or.ug](http://www.deniva.or.ug)

Environmental Protection and Management Services (EPMS), Tanzania:

Sudanese Environment Conservation Society (SECS), Sudan

### Europe

International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), UK: [www.iied.org](http://www.iied.org)

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), UK: [www.lshtm.ac.uk](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk)

Stockholm Environment Institute –Oxford,UK:[www.sei.se/oxford](http://www.sei.se/oxford)

### South Asia

Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS), Bangladesh: [www.bcas.net](http://www.bcas.net)

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Royal Society for Protection of Nature (RSPN), Bhutan: [www.rspn-bhutan.org](http://www.rspn-bhutan.org)

Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD), Nepal: [www.libird.org](http://www.libird.org)

### West Africa

Environmental Development Action in the Third World (ENDA), Senegal: [www.enda.sn](http://www.enda.sn)

Organisation des Femmes pour la Gestion de l'Energie, de l'Environnement et la promotion du Développement Intégré (OFEDI), Benin

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Action Group for Renewable energies and Sustainable Development (GED), Mozambique

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The Ring is an alliance of 13 established and renowned policy research organizations promoting sustainable development through collaborative research dissemination and policy advocacy. Its members include ACTS-Kenya, BCAS-Bangladesh, CENESTA-Iran, DA-India, ENDA (TM) –Senegal, Vitae Civilis Brazil, IIED-UK, IISD-Canada, NEST-Nigeria, RIDES-Chile, SEI-Sweden, SDPI-Pakistan and ZERO-Zimbabwe.

We invite you to learn more about CLACC and to contact us regarding our work. Please visit <http://www.clacc.net/> for updated information

