

# Climate and Environmental Challenges in Asia and Pacific: *The Role of Governance*



**The Asia Foundation**

Improving Lives, Expanding Opportunities

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# ADDRESSING INDIA'S CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

Governance, The Critical Element

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# ADDRESSING ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES THROUGH INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE

## Improve Policy and Decision-making

- Build the resilience & capacity of small farmers
  - Adopt resilient, sustainable agricultural practices.
- A comprehensive policy and legislative framework:
  - Adequately address the requirements of financing
  - Increase the adaptive capacities of small and marginal farmers
  - Help scale up the policy framework



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## § *Community Engagement for Building Climate Resilient Villages in State of Bihar*

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- Engage with the government's **village planning process** to create a **resilient village plan**
- Support the adaptation of **nature-based solutions** in **five vulnerable villages**
- Promote **sustainability eco-based services** by encouraging **local solutions** to the challenges of climate change





## WHAT WORKS FOR THE COMMUNITY

### *Capacity building of farmers to adopt nature-based and flood resilient farming techniques*

- Flood Resilient Participatory Farm Planning
- Promotion of flood resilient farming technique
- Techniques for farming on silted area
- Promotion of bio-pesticide and different types of composting

# WHAT WORKS FOR THE GOVERNMENT

## Supporting the government to respond to community needs

- Establish grain and seed bank, and agricultural equipment center at village level.
- Link vulnerable stakeholders with available government programs
- Facilitate dialogue between citizens of Indo-Nepal region through Transboundary Citizens Forum
- Develop a policy brief to address climate change extremes affecting
  - agricultural yields
  - food security
  - incomes of smallholder farmers



# NATIONAL AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

## *Policy-directed Research*

- Supported Orrisa Water Initiatives (OWI)  
*'Challenges faced by riparian communities displaced by rising sea level in coastal Odisha - Bay of Bengal.'*
- Identified the socioeconomic and ecological challenges among riparian communities affected by sea level rise.
- Looking to inform the rehabilitation policy for climate-displaced communities in the coastal state of Odisha, focusing on women's experience of displacement

# MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH ON HYDRO DIPLOMACY AND WATER GOVERNANCE

- ***Policy-directed Research***

- Shifting the understanding of river ecosystems
  - approaching water governance with nuanced, multi-stakeholder lens
- Mainstreaming a human-centric and multidisciplinary view of hydro-diplomacy, through engagement with academic institutes
- Initiated a Master's-level hydro-diplomacy course in three national Universities
- Led to the creation of multiple knowledge products based on research and field studies
- Memorandum of Understanding signed with Pondicherry University to collaborate on mutually agreed research projects



THANK YOU

