

Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation-Action Taken in the State of Rajasthan

Presented by
Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board
Jaipur

Climate Change and Rajasthan

- Rajasthan is the largest state in India with two-third of its area as Thar desert.
- The entire State receives scanty rainfall. Thar Desert is particularly characterized by low and erratic rainfall, high air and soil temperature, intense solar radiation and high wind velocity.
- Context-specific interactions of these factors not only give rise to frequent droughts and famines, they also make local livelihoods highly vulnerable.
- State also falls within the areas of greatest climate sensitivity. The State has the maximum vulnerability and lowest adaptive capacity to climate change challenges.
- Rajasthan has the maximum probability of occurrence of drought in India.

Rajasthan State Environmental Policy

■ Guiding Principles

- It must weave in with the state-specific issues in key sectors like agriculture and animal husbandry, mining and industry, tourism, energy, and basic urban services and infrastructure.
- It must build upon the elements of environmental management contained in many of the sectoral policies of the state and provide a coordinated response
- It must be in line with the objectives and underlying principles of the National Environment Policy, 2006

Key Objectives of the Policy

- Conserve and Enhance Environmental Resources**
- Assure Environmental Sustainability of Key Economic Sectors**
- Improve Environmental Governance and Build Capacity**

A set of strategies and actions have been detailed in the policy to achieve these objectives.

Climate Change and CDM Cell

- Taking proactive action, the State Government established a ‘Climate Change and CDM Cell’ in the State Pollution control Board to act as a nodal agency to deal with all the issues related with Climate Change in the State.
- The Cell has started functioning since April this year. Appointment of experts on CDM and Climate Change is in process.

Climate Change Agenda for Rajasthan (2010-2014)

■ Objective

To list out a set of state priorities for policy, research and implementation with respect to adaptation and mitigation

■ Guiding Principles

- ❖ National priorities as identified in NAPCCC
- ❖ State-specific risks, impacts and opportunities under a changing climate, and
- ❖ Stakeholder consultation.

Approach for Preparation of the CCA

- Identification of key environmental stresses, risks and sectoral impacts of climate change in Rajasthan

Literature Review, Review of existing programmes, policies and plans

- Framing of Climate Change Agenda for Rajasthan

Based on missions identified in the NAPCC along with an understanding of the exposure of the state to environmental stresses, climatic risks and sectoral impacts of climate change,

- Identification of priority areas for adaptation and mitigation action in Rajasthan with targets for 2010-2014
- Finalization of the State Climate Change Agenda

Climate Change Agenda for Rajasthan

The Climate Change Agenda for the state of Rajasthan focuses on the following Task Forces:

- Water Resources
- Agriculture and Animal Husbandry
- Forestry and Biodiversity
- Human Health
- Enhanced Energy Efficiency and Solar Energy
- Urban Governance and Sustainable Habitats
- Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change

For each Task Force, certain Research and Development (R&D) needs as well as supporting policy and regulatory measures have been identified

Way Ahead

- Rajasthan has been identified as one of the four states most vulnerable due to climate change.
- Accordingly, detailed action plan for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation for Rural Areas is under preparation through GTZ.
- Vulnerability and Risk Assessment plan for the state vis-s-vis climate change and related impacts and disasters is proposed to be prepared first on the basis of which the State Level Adaptation Action Plan will be formulated.
- The action plan is likely to be prepared in one year time and it will be implemented in rest of the plan period.

Rajasthan Environment Mission

- **State Environment Policy** identifies the key environmental challenges that must address to ensure continued economic growth that is sustainable and equitable
- **Climate Change Agenda** has been prepared to take forward the provisions of the NAPCC and to prepare detail action plan for adaptation and mitigation at the State level.
- The purpose of the **Environment Mission** is to bring into focus the high priority issues emerging from the SEP and CCA, and mobilize government and non-government stakeholders to address these issues

Institutional Structure For Implementation of SEP and CCA

- The Institutional Structure will have a three-tier structure, comprising:
 - ❖ **Environment Mission**-To be headed by CM and Ministers of various key departments as members.
 - ❖ **Steering Committee**- To be headed by Chief Secretary and Principal Secretaries of various key departments as members.
 - ❖ **Task Forces**- In key thrust areas to be constituted under the concerned Principal Secretary/Secretary Action Plans have also been prepared for Task Forces in identified thrust areas.

Publications of Climate Change and CDM Cell

- **Climate Change Impacts, Mitigation and Adaptation: Science for Generating Policy Options in Rajasthan, India**
 - ❖ The document tries to ascertain what is already known about climate change and Rajasthan and explore scientific knowledge which is crucial for generating various policy options for climate change mitigation and adaptation in the state.
 - ❖ Prepared by a multi-disciplinary team of scientists and practitioners from IIS, Bangalore, IIT Kharkpur and Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board.
 - ❖ Provides over view of climate change issues related to the state and also abstracts of 234 research articles and publications that policymakers can use to design evidence-based policy responses in various domains of governance.

URBAN FORESTS AND OPEN GREEN SPACES: LESSONS FOR JAIPUR, RAJASTHAN, INDIA

- It a collaborative effort by CAZRI, Jodhpur and RPCB.
- There is a critical necessity of green areas within urban social-ecological systems.
- The paper reviews the present status of urban forestry across the world, and draw lessons that can be applied for the governance of urban green spaces
- Cities renowned for their urban green spaces have approximately 20 to 30% coverage of the total geographical area, and 15 to 25 m² urban green spaces per capita.

- WHO suggests ensuring at least a minimum availability of 9 m² green open space per city dweller.
- In Jaipur city open space is around 5.43 km² for a population of 3.30 million.
- Accordingly, per capita open space works out to be 1.60 m² per person which is well below the WHO norms.
- Paper provides strategies and lessons aimed at creating multifunctional landscapes to enhance urban resilience and human well-being.



Thanks