

Country profiles

Bangladesh

Location: Bangladesh is a country in southeast Asia

Capital city: Dhaka

Population: 150 million people live there. One person in three is aged 14 or under

Climate:

Bangladesh has a tropical climate. It has hot, sticky summers followed by monsoons, which are heavy rains that often cause flooding.

Climate change-related problems:

Bangladesh is more affected by flooding than any other country in the world. This is because the country is very flat and has several big rivers running through it, including the Ganges, Jumana/ Brahmaputra and Meghna.

17 million people live only one metre above sea level.

Floods sweep away crops, homes, schools and roads.

Severe floods occurred in 1974, 1988, 1998, 2004 and 2007. Such floods are now happening more often.

Carbon footprint:

On average, a person in Bangladesh emits 0.3 tonnes of CO₂ a year. Compare this figure to the UK (9.4 tonnes) and Ireland (10.3 tonnes) figures.*

(*Source: UNDP Human Development Report 2006)



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CRAZY CLIMATE

Country profiles

Senegal

Location: Senegal is a country in west Africa

Capital city: Dakar

Population: 11.4 million people live there

Climate:

Senegal has a hot, tropical climate with a rainy season and a dry season. During the rainy season, most of the rain falls between the months of July and September, with between 100-500mm of rain, but less rainfall is being recorded now.

The rest of the year is dry with a hot, dry and strong wind blowing from the desert (the north of the country is half desert). The wind blows away the good soil which makes it hard for crops to grow.

Climate change-related problems:

The country suffered from drought (very serious lack of rain) in 1972 and again in 2002.

After independence from France in 1960, the government allowed people to cut down trees to make charcoal. This meant that whole forests were cut down and destroyed. Now more and more of the land is turning into desert because the trees have gone and the animals eat up all the grass and plants faster than they grow.

The land is thought to be turning into desert at the rate of about 300 metres every year.

Carbon footprint:

On average, each person in Senegal emits 0.4 tonnes of CO₂ a year. Compare this figure to the UK (9.4 tonnes) and Ireland (10.3 tonnes) figures.*

(*Source: UNDP Human Development Report 2006)

