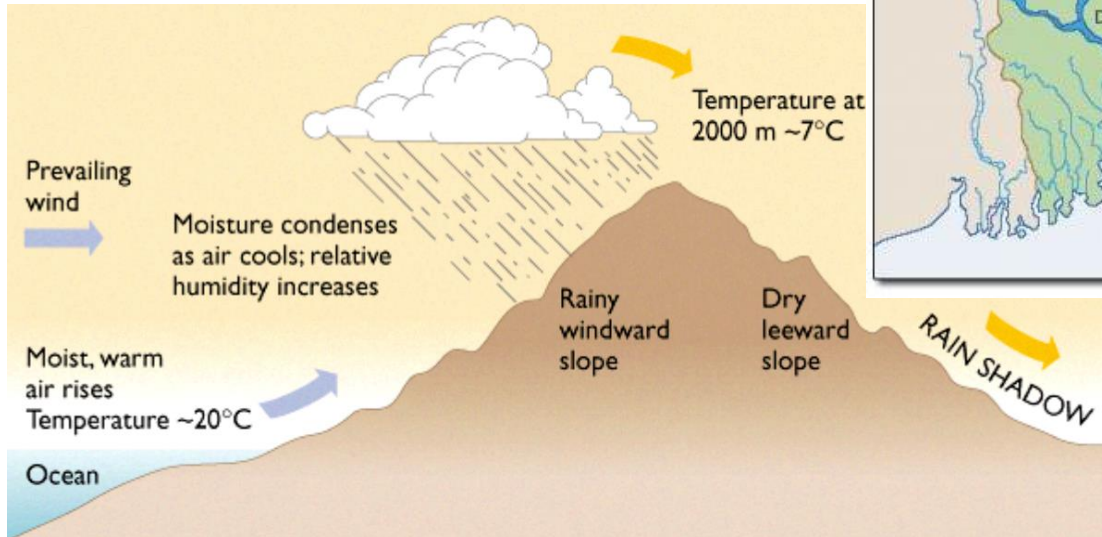


Bangladesh Case Study

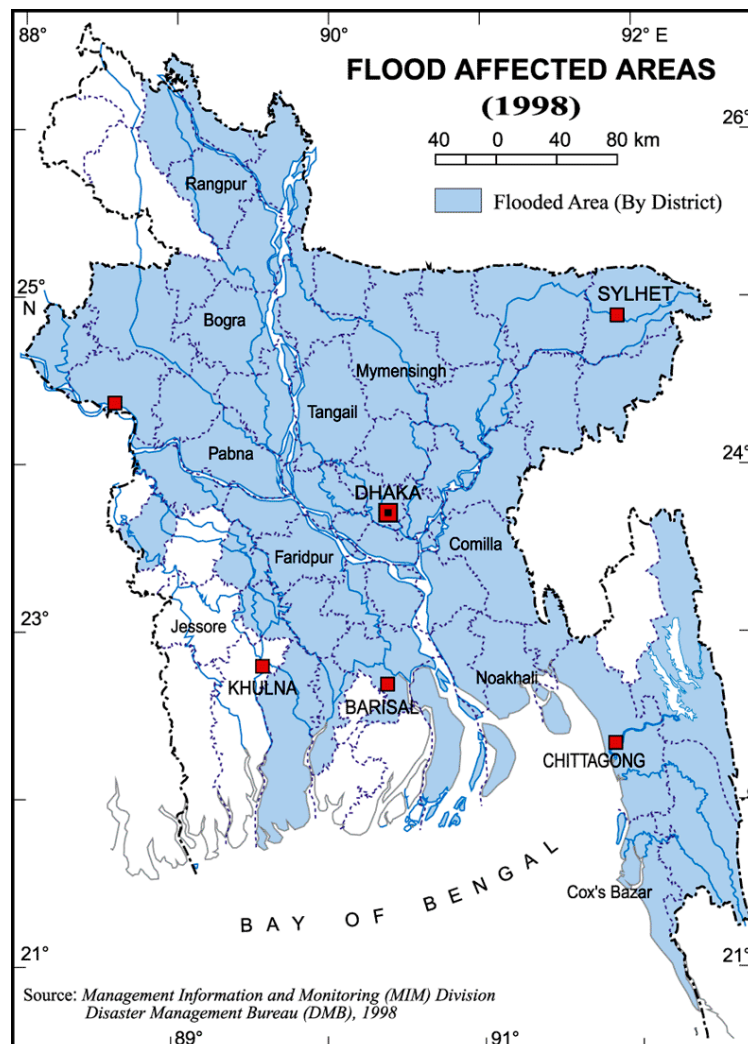
Physical Factors:

Bangladesh is a very flat country as it is all made up of flood plains of the three large rivers that flow through it. It receives seasonal monsoon rains.



What are the monsoon rains?

Bangladesh is affected by the monsoon rains. These very heavy seasonal rains happen twice a year in summer and winter. The summer rain clouds are stopped by the Himalayan Mountains in the North of Bangladesh. They cannot climb over the mountains and so fall over Bangladesh.



Human Factors

Bangladesh has large growing cities which have large amounts of concrete streets. Bangladesh is one of the world's most densely populated countries; it is the same size as Britain but its total population is over 160,000,000.

Bangladesh's capital city is Dhaka, Bangladesh has two great rivers flowing through it, these are called the Brahmaputra and the Ganges. Every year these rivers flood because of the seasonal monsoon rains. Huge areas of Bangladesh have been deforested in order to be used as farm land to feed the large population.

Source: Management Information and Monitoring (MIM) Division
Disaster Management Bureau (DMB), 1998

Local People's Impacts

Tackling the Floods

Bangladesh is a poor country and so is not well equipped to deal with emergencies such as floods. The rescue operations were carried out by the Bangladesh army and international aid organizations like the Red Cross.

Short term help:

Floods do a great deal of short term damage. Discuss these and agree on how to prioritise them.



Long term impacts

Floods do a lot of **long term** damage which may take a long time to fix. Match the problem to the effect to learn more.

Problem
Bridges and roads damaged
Fields flooded
Schools destroyed
Housing damaged

Effect
Without shelter, people may die
Children will not learn important skills
Food can not be grown – starvation possible
Emergency services can't get through