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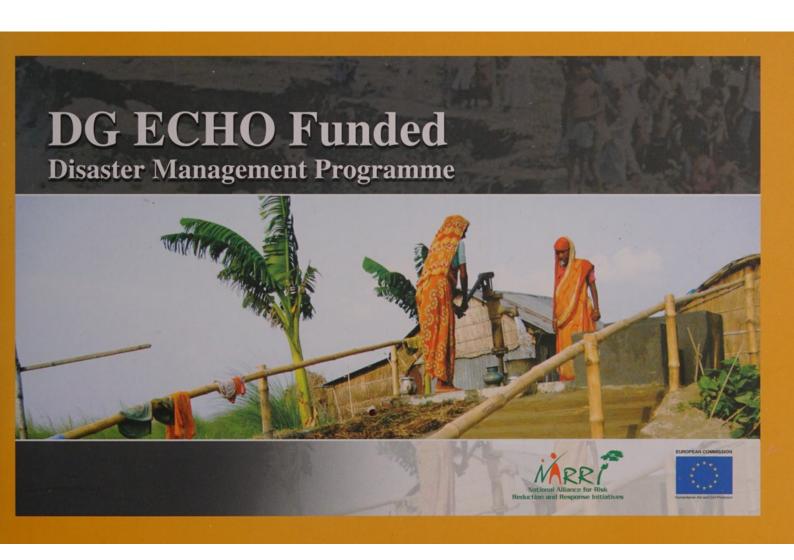
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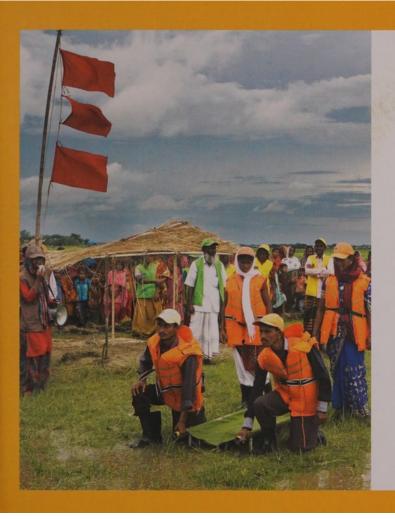
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Bangladesh and Disasters

Bangladesh is ranked as the nation most at risk from extreme weather and geophysical events among 229 countries surveyed (NDRI 2010). The major hazards for the country include riverine floods, cyclones, associated coastal storm surges, drought and earthquakes. In addition, flash floods, tornadoes and river-bank erosion are frequent causes of more localised, but nevertheless intense human suffering and losses. In different disasters over the past 20 years, a total of 135 million people have been affected, out of which 16,513 were life casualties. The total amount of resulting damage in terms of economy was 11.7 million USD (EM-DAT). Poverty reduction strategies and initiatives in Bangladesh are always affected over the years because the government and the development agencies are always forced to increase allocation of financial and human resources to respond to the natural disasters. Humanitarian funding requirements per emergency have also increased by nearly 50%, reflecting a reform in humanitarian action that includes early recovery and preparedness (ALNAP). This situation demands vision of a poverty focused disaster management programme in Bangladesh considering a transition from a response and relief focus to vulnerability and risk reduction approach in disaster management.



Need For a Systematic Approach

The global paradigm shift from post disaster management to pre-disaster management embraced a situation for a comprehensive and systematic approach towards disaster management. Acknowledging the need for a collaborative effort, six international NGOs viz. Action Aid, Concern Universal, Concern Worldwide, Islamic Relief Worldwide, Oxfam GB and Plan Bangladesh, have established a consortium named

National Alliance for Risk Reduction and Response Initiatives (NARRI). It started functioning in September 2010 with the aim to strengthening the disaster preparedness and risk reduction efforts in the country and contribute towards meeting commitments for the Hyogo framework of Action (HFA 2005-2015). It provides an opportunity for coordinated emergency response with wider outreach.

The Value Addition of NARRI

NARRI envisages working closely with the Government of Bangladesh at local and national level, relevant ministries, and development partners, international and national organisations. NARRI has developed its five year strategy based on consultation with multiple stakeholders and focuses to increase the capacities of vulnerable communities and institutions (schools, hospitals, factories, etc) to withstand the impacts of potential disasters and to mainstream risk reduction initiatives into wider policy, programmes and plans of the country.

The initiative is a result of increasing recognition that larger impact and efficiency of the programme are best achieved working in alliance beyond just individual projects. NARRI's five year strategy promotes development of comprehensive risk reduction programmes and interventions at national and local level, as well as contributes to coordinated actions, shared learning and good practices. NARRI members aim achieving economies of scale and a more effective extent of delivery.



Focus on Risk Reduction and Response Initiatives

The discourse of Disaster Management is expanding immensely. With the success of multi-dimensional initiatives across borders, disaster resilience is now considered as one of the core requirements for sustainable development. Risk reduction initiatives cannot alone deal with natural catastrophes; nor can response initiatives bring far-reaching impact to the affected communities. There is a need for a blended approach, NARRI is intending to bring in Bangladesh. The current practice of the country is to treat response and risk reduction initiatives differently. NARRI tends to bridge the gap by taking a holistic approach and carry out both these initiatives from a common ground.



Key Milestones in the Five Year Strategy of NARRI (2011 – 2015)

- Substantially contributed to effective implementation and monitoring of Hyogo Framework of Action (HFA 2005-2015).
- Targeted governance structures are strengthened and capacitated to effectively implement DRR policy and legal framework.
- Mainstreamed risk reduction initiatives into development programs for at least three relevant ministries (national to local).
- Enhanced local capacity to respond to disasters with minimal external support.
- Strengthened Knowledge resource base of the community and other relevant DRR stakeholders.

A Disaster Resilient Future – Sixth DIPECHO Action Plan

The first initiative of NARRI Consortium

Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO – European Commission) has set up DIPECHO (which stands for Disaster Preparedness ECHO) to improve the capacities of communities at risk to better prepare and protect themselves. DIPECHO projects are designed as pilot strategies for their region: their impact is multiplied when the strategies are systematically integrated into long-term development projects.

ECHO's humanitarian mandate prescribes a focus on saving lives, providing relief and thus assisting the most vulnerable groups. ECHO therefore prioritizes 'people-oriented' preparedness measures. The main component of ECHO's contribution to the global Disaster Risk Reduction efforts remains the DIPECHO programme which now covers 7 disaster-prone regions including South Asia.

Sixth DIPECHO Action Plan for South Asia in Bangladesh is the first undertaking of the NARRI with the aim to see 'A Disaster Resilient Future: Mobilising Communities and Institutions for Effective Risk Reduction'. It endeavors to support and complement strategies

that enable local communities and institutions to better prepare for, mitigate and respond adequately to natural disasters. This shall be achieved through enhancing their capacities to adapt and respond to disasters, thereby, increasing their resilience and reducing vulnerability. The DIPECHO programme aims to achieve the principal objective by:

- Targeting the most vulnerable communities and categories of population using bottom-up participatory methods and relevant local materials/resources that can be easily replicated.
- Fostering appropriate and sustainable preparedness activities that are coordinated with local and national public institutions and that can be easily replicated in other parts of the region and beyond.
- Focusing on the areas most exposed to frequent natural hazards and with less coping capacities.

NARRI promotes inclusive approach in DRR

Key Result Areas

NARRI adopts a holistic approach and recognizes the importance of communities and institutional strengthening to enable sustainable disaster resilience in Bangladesh. The project specifically targets strengthening of institutions and local governance structures such as Disaster Management Committees (DMCs), along with Community Based Organizations (CBOs), hospitals, schools and garment factories. The project intends to work directly with 51,140 households or 255,700 persons living in the 10 prioritised districts of Bangladesh targeted due to their extreme vulnerability to riverine floods, cyclones with accompanied storms, earthquakes and river erosion However the benefits will gradually encompass a larger portion of the entire local community. The project design includes special consideration for the highly vulnerable socially excluded and marginalized community members through ensuring their inclusion and mainstreaming in the people centered disaster risk reduction.

DIPECHO-VI

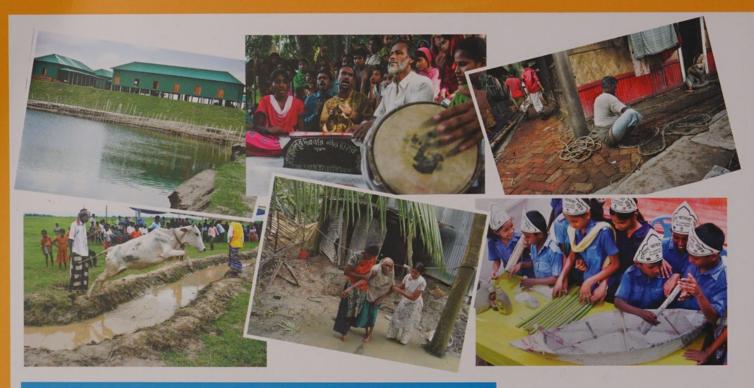
aims to achieve four results:

Result 1: Effective implementation of DRR policy and legal framework (national to local) in Bangladesh.

Result 3: Increased preparedness for effective emergency response in targeted communities and institutions in Bangladesh.

Result 2: Targeted communities and institutions have increased capacity to assess and mitigate disaster risks in Bangladesh.

Result 4: Increased knowledge sharing enables a greater impact in risk reduction and strengthens a culture of safety in Bangladesh.



"Targeted Beneficiaries under DIPECHO VI"

Total Households **51140** Total Population **255700**

Key interventions under each result

Result 1

- Community mobilisation and awareness raising on disaster risk reduction involving CBOs, DMCs and religious leaders
- Facilitate formation and/or capacity building of DMCs, SMCs and CBOs as per Standing Orders on Disaster (SOD) in Bangladesh
- Provide technical and hand holding support to DMCs and help them to function effectively
- Orientation about linkages of disaster risk reduction with development including mainstreaming in Annual Development Plans (ADPs)

Result 2

- Capacity building of DMCs, SMCs and CBOs on risk assessment and facilitation of risk assessment both in rual and urban areas (In line with CRA guideline developed under CDMP)
- Small Scale mitigation identified under Risk Reduction Action Plans (RRAP's) – flood shelter, school / market-raising, and elevation of tube-well, approach road and cluster houses etc.
- Facilitation of community/local institutions led advocacy for RRAP implementation school safety audit and safety planning awareness campaign with school children through orientation sessions, risk reduction themed competitions, climate micro projects etc.

Result 3

- Awareness raising of communities (households) and target institutions on basic disaster preparedness measures
- Capacity building of local governance structures and targeted institutions for emergency response including
- Contingency planning in targeted union and Upazila as per Ministry of Food and Disaster Management (MoFDM) guidelines
- Training of targeted DMCs at Upazila and Union level on post disaster damage and need assessment as per MoFDM guideline
- Establishment of community based early warning dissemination systems for flood and cyclone and link them with Flood Management Information System (FMIS) of GoB
- Skill building of community volunteers on early warning, search and rescue (S&R), first aid, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) with the provision of emergency response equipments.

Result 4

- Documentation and dissemination of good practices and lessons learnt
- Engagement with media for wider dissemination
- Mass awareness-raising on DRR through DRR fair, folk shows, Gambhira, mock drills, using media etc.



Name of Organisation	Operational Area	Local Implementing Partners	Total Amount of Funding
ActionAid Bangladesh	Dhaka	Population Service and Training Center (PSTC)	EUR 983,550
		Directorate of Fire Service and Civil Defense (FSCD)	
	Khulna	Ulashi Sreejony Sangha (USS)	
	Satkhira	Jagrata Juba Shangha (JJS)	
	Pabna	Manab Mukti Sangstha (MMS)	
Concern Universal	Jamalpur Dhaka	Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM)	EUR 500,000
Concern Worldwide	Sirajgonj	Gono Kalyan Sangstha (GKS)	EUR 400,000
	Dhaka	Social and Economic Enhancement Programme (SEEP)	
Islamic Relief Worldwide	Gaibandha	SKS Foundation	EUR 575,000
	Sylhet	Islamic Relief Bangladesh (IRB)	
Oxfam GB	Faridpur	Amra Kaj Kory (AKK)	EUR 465,000
	Sylhet	Voluntary Association for Rural Development (VARD)	
Plan Bangladesh	Barguna Dhaka	South Asia Partnership Bangladesh (SAP-B)	EUR 400,000

Prevailing Good Practices in the Consortium

- Excellent understanding among the DIPECHO management of the partner organisations. Working in close coordination during implementation of DIPECHO-V made a big difference in terms of decision making and putting things together.
- Decisions not forced or top-down but given gestation time for them to evolve as a natural process.
- Strong commitment, willingness, consistent support and encouragement from the Country Directors ensured through formation of steering committee from the beginning in order to take policy decisions for a better institutional ownership.
- Integrating expertise on cross-cutting issues through technical partners for a strong technical back-stopping support.
- Bringing together organisations with diversity demonstrates to others that we are open and not limited to ourselves.
- Combined development of the NARRI strategy ensuring shared responsibilities and greater ownership.

Strategic Partners:



Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET)



BRAC University (BRAC)



Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Export Association (BGMEA)



Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS)



Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio And Communication (BNNRC)



Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme (CDMP)



Directorate General for Health Serivice (DGHS)



Disaster Management Bureau (DMB)



Center for Medical Education



Fire Service and Civil Defense (FSCD)



Shah Jalal University of Science and Technology

Other Initiatives of NARRI Consortium

Emergency Food Security and Livelihood Support in the Cyclone Aila affected Region in Bangladesh

OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

The FAST project is a seven months emergency response cash transfer distribution-based initiative aimed at emergency food security and livelihoods support in the Cyclone Aila affected region of Bangladesh. The donor, ECHO is providing funding to the tune of Euro 10 million. The project has four cash transfer modalities namely Cash for Work (CFW), Cash for Training (CFT), Agricultural Cash Grants (AgCG) and Unconditional Cash Grants (UCG).

Number of Beneficiaries : 211250 (0.21 million)

Number of Households (HH): 42,250

Duration : 7 months – May to Nov 2011

Total Funding : Euro 10 million

Geographical coverage : Khulna and Satkhira districts
Reporting period covered : Up to 29th September 2011

Emergency Humanitarian Aid in Favour of Communities Affected by Floods and Water-logging in Bangladesh

OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

The project is a five months emergency response cash transfer and distribution-based initiative aimed at emergency food security and livelihoods support in the floods and water logging affected region of Bangladesh. The donor, ECHO is providing funding to the tune of Euro 1.8 millions. The project has three cash transfer (conditional and unconditional) and distribution based modalities namely Cash for Work (CFW) and Cash for Training (CFT) under Food Security result, secondly; Water and Sanitation Grants (WASH) and thirdly Shelter and Winterized Kits).

Number of Beneficiaries : 124,000 (One Hundred

Twenty Four Thousand)

Number of Households (HH): 24,800

Duration : 5 months - Sep. 2011 to Jan. 2012

Total Funding : Euro 1.8 million

Geographical coverage: Jessore and Satkhira districts

Partners' Addresses

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