

Samadhan
Keshabpur, Jessore
Project Completion report

Date: June 26, 2012

- 1. Name of project:** Emergency Humanitarian Aid in Favour of Communities affected by floods and Waterlogging in Bangladesh.
- 2. Project Goal:** To address the acute emergency needs of the water logging people
- 3. Specific objective:** Ensure that targeted communities have access to adequate and appropriate food to uphold their survival and prevent erosion of assets in a manner that fosters early livelihoods recovery, reduces vulnerability and uphold dignity.
- 4. Duration of the project:** February, 1 to June 25, 2012
- 5. Funded by:** European Commission Humanitarians Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO)
- 6. Assisted by:** CARE-Bangladesh and NARRI consortium.
- 7. Implemented by:** Samadhan
- 8. Project area:** Flood/Waterlogging affected more vulnerable unions of Nagorhata, Sorulia, Tentulia, Ismalkati and Khalilnagar under Tala Upazila in Satkhira district.
- 9. # of target families:** 3600 nos.
- 10. Beneficiaries selection criteria:**
 - Families whose houses and property was damaged/washed away during the floods and have had to continue living on embankments or in villages in marooned locations;
 - Socially vulnerable people (female-headed and child headed households, elderly people, and disabled people) lacking purchasing capacity;
 - Households that have no or little access to income generating activities;
 - Families that suffer discrimination due to their minority status - neglected minority groups;
 - People who have no means to recover from the loss on their own;
 - Landless labourers, small and marginal farmers;
 - Families with widows and people with disability.

- 11. Result 1:** Targeted households received income through Cash for Work activities in a timely manner to enable them to purchase food to meet their daily requirements

Activity:

- 3600 HHs receive Tk.7,000 from the Cash for Work schemes through their participation for 40 days work @ BDT 175 per day to meet their basic food and non food needs
- Cash for Work scheme will include plinth raising, road construction, internal road repair keeping DRR in mind

12. Result 2: Targeted households received support in a timely manner through Cash for Training programmes to build skills while providing them with an income to meet their daily needs and to minimise asset depletion and/or where possible to preserve or increase the asset base.

Activity: 3600 HHs attended 05 sessions on Cash for Training and received an income of BDT 3,500 in gross (BDT 700 per session/per person) to meet their basic food and non food needs

13. Result 3: Local and national level advocacy ensured for the delivery of government recovery initiatives and the promotion of a lesson learning culture on the consortium led disaster recovery response and Water-Logging situation.

Activities:

- One national and two district level workshops took place with relevant government ministries and key stakeholders to inform about the project and advocate for delivery of government/ NGOs services in a coordinated manner.
- Attended/Facilitated local coordination meetings with all key stakeholders on a monthly basis
- Organise a final learning workshop in June to capture the best learning and replicate in future.

14. Expected results/impacts:

- 3600 HHs have received BDT 10,500 each from the project through CFW and CFT and income from this enables 90% HHs to have access to 3 adequate and diversified meals a day
- Women and other special needy groups equally benefit from the intervention
- Targeted HH practicing their knowledge from training in their daily lives
- Communities express satisfaction that investment in DRR activities has effectively contributed to reduce vulnerability

13. Provable challenges:

- Markets remain stable and functional
- No major floods or other disaster(s) during programme implementation, and the flood water recedes in due course of time
- Coordination between different stakeholders are effective
- Timely approval from the government

15. What worked well overall:

- Selected families by involving communities and UPs.
- Inclusion of all groups e.g. gender, disability, ethnic, religious, political, economic or social divisions,
- Formulation of CMCs consisting of both men and women and other stakeholders; beneficiaries, religious leader, UDMC member, female UP members etc. were very effective.
- Complaint boxes, festoon, banner along with contact numbers of Samadhan & Concern staff proved the transparency & HAP.
- Ensure women participation in CFW & CFT, made payment to them as it is more empowering
- Established linkages with UPs, Upazila & district level all relevant GoB officials proved useful.

16. What worked well in Cash for Work:

- ⊕ Ensure participation of 98% women.
- ⊕ Completed a large number of schemes i.e. 246 schemes including 124 road raised (21 km), school ground-13, cluster-89 with 280 household plinths and Religious institutions ground raised 20 etc. considering HFL for DRR.
- ⊕ Different stakeholders extended their wholehearted cooperation like-UNO, Upazila Chairman, PIO, UP Chairman, institutional head and community people in implementing schemes to avoid overlapping with govt. as well as its sustainability.
- ⊕ Improved communication through roads that have given better access to markets, schools, health care centres.
- ⊕ Raised grounds will help communities in taking shelter as well as saving their belongings during flooding.

17. What worked well in Cash for training:

- ⊕ Ensure participation of 99.50% women.
- ⊕ Make beneficiaries aware on DRR, IGA, homestead gardening and WASH.
- ⊕ Increased dignity and respect in family and community.
- ⊕ The project impacted to reduce social and religious superstition.
- ⊕ Increased knowledge on health/hygiene and environment.
- ⊕ Created opportunities to buy essential daily commodities, as per their needs.
- ⊕ Provided cash might be supplemented to safely living of most deserving disableds, elderly, women, whose are not able to join in other labour intensive hard work.

18. Challenges faced:

- ⊕ Selection of limited families from huge number of affected families
- ⊕ Local political influence to enlist name of HH who did not meet the selection criteria.
- ⊕ Selection of limited cluster for plinth raising from huge number of water stagnant households.
- ⊕ Carrying cash money to the remotest and insecure areas.
- ⊕ Manage earth for cutting and raise to make the scheme HFL proof.
- ⊕ Ensure output in CFW for female 35 & male 43 cft of earth cutting per days as per govt. rules as it was humanitarian assistance.
- ⊕ 8 hours working in heavy sunny day by the weakest, disabled, sick, lactating & pregnant women as we were instructed to follow govt. rules.
- ⊕ Continue CFW during harvesting.
- ⊕ Find out suitable training venue for CFT.
- ⊕ Ensure participation of CMC, UDMC & PIC with out any incentive.

19. Key lessons learnt:

- ⊕ Guideline and orientation for CFW is needed to increase the effectiveness and quality of work
- ⊕ Coordination among the PICs is helpful to avoid political pressures and constraints like availability of earth, prioritization of schemes etc.
- ⊕ Plan for Staff capacity building is very much needed within the project design (in terms of orientation, learning and sharing).
- ⊕ Coordination with the local government representatives from the beginning of programme design and planning is helpful to avoid future constraints and overcome influences

- A 'Training Need Assessment' is needed to increase the investment for training and its impact for beneficiaries
- Targeting women as almost 100% beneficiary has created a social change process and it also increased the total amount of family income in many cases.
- Delay in getting approval from NGOAB has delayed the implementation process and created unnecessary pressure at the ground level
- Delay in transferring money to beneficiaries after their hard-work has created scope of political influence and mistrust
- Absence of a guideline for integrating DRR in CFW has reduced the potential for future risk reduction and also gap in monitoring of the integration.

20. The target and cumulative progress of Cash for Work (CFW) at a glance:

Activity	Person-Days			Amount		
	Target	Achieved	% Achieved	Target	Achieved	% Achieved
CFW	162,000	163,016	103.01%	2,83,50,000	2,85,27,800	103.01%

Actually, the CFW activity started on last 25.03.2012 and completed on last 21.06.2012. This activity was delayed for 07 days closed of the activity for harvesting of rice as per request/advice of LEB, community people and UNO also.

Number and type of scheme completed:

Type of Schemes	Completed	Remarks
Road repairing	168	
Community ground raising	70	
Embankment repairing	04	
Cannel re-excavation	01	
Cluster based homestead ground	19	
Total =	262	

21. The target and cumulative progress of Cash for Training (CFT) at a glance:

Activity	Person-Sessions			Amount		
	Target	Achieved	% Achieved	Target	Achieved	% Achieved
CFT	18000	18000	100.00%	12,600,000	12,600,000	100.00%

The CFT activity has been started from 21.05.2012 as per our plan, by this time we have divided the 3600 beneficiaries in 135 groups for CFT. We will invite 100% women in the CFT except exceptional case. The contents presented in the training are disaster risks reduction, income generating activities, homestead gardening and water & sanitation.

22. Cross Cutting Themes:

(DRR, people with disabilities & senior citizen, gender & equality and children's rights)

- Scheme prepared and implementing considering DRR, without DRR consideration no any scheme has been taken.
- Accommodated disable and elderly people in CFW as much as possible by ensuring relax as much as possible in the CFW activities.

- Ensured gender and equality in CFW activity, Payment, VMC formation and beneficiary's selection processes.
- We established child care centre for working-hour of women beneficiaries, created un-disturbing and protected working environment, especially for women beneficiaries
- Ensured temporary toilet facilities beneficiaries in working places.
- Ensured shed for rest of the beneficiaries at interval period to protect from sunshine by hanging cloths made tabu.

23. Conclusion:

Samadhan feel proud for its successfully implementation of the project interventions by involving different levels of stakeholders ensuring quality, quantity, time and cost, through which the name and fame of Samadhan, CARE-Bangladesh, NARRI and ECHO have been enhanced and increased acceptance to everybody in the project areas and beyond project areas. Samadhan's may have some limitation but there was no any shortage of commitment. Samadhan feel happy to got the opportunities to reduce the local disaster risks from the hazards prone community, so thanks and grateful to all of them, who extended wholehearted cooperation and to the local administration and their kind cooperation to Samadhan and as well as to disaster victims of Tala upazila under Satkhira district.

Queries or suggestions if any on the report will highly be appreciated.

Thanks and regards

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Samadhan

Tala, Satkhira