

Activity Report: Symposium on Sendai Spring Campaign

28 January 2016; Dhaka, Bangladesh

A daylong Symposium on **Sendai Spring Campaign** for Civil Society Organization and other National Organizations has been accomplished in Dhaka Community Hospital Trust, Dhaka. The symposium is organized by Dhaka Community Hospital Trust and Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN), A-PAD-Bangladesh and Community Initiatives Society (CIS). The programme has been made possible with the support of Christian Aid.

The aim of the Symposium on **Sendai Spring Campaign** is to gather and share experiences of local level actions and to stimulate community resilience. The focus of the symposium was to highlight risk mitigation and resilience building by using various tools and technology available or need to improve in community level.



Together with more than 70 civil societies and government officials from different districts and organizations in Bangladesh participated in the symposium. This symposium was important to start discussion and exchange views at different levels in order to have better understanding of “Sendai Spring Campaign”.

The Major objectives of this symposium are as follows:

- De-mystification and wide circulation of SFDRR to improve understanding among various stakeholder
- Voices from across the world on how they commit to deal with their greatest risk
- Stories of local level action on increasing community resilience.
- Linkages with other upcoming frameworks through outreach including the World Humanitarian Summit. The Sustainable Development Goals and COP 21 to help ensure that local action is cohesive and not done in silos

OPENING SESSION

Mr. Golam Mostofa, Director, Project and Research, DCH Trust gave the welcome address, which followed by the DCH Trust video show on disaster. In his address he mentioned that disaster events do not only disrupt people’s lives and directly affect the disaster-hit areas, but they also jeopardize

the entire society and economy of the country. In March 2015, Global leaders signed the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. For first time, it sets targets, acknowledges risks that go beyond natural hazards and highlights the role of various stakeholders-particularly local civil societies. DCH Trust participated and played role in Sendai Conference in Japan 2015 he added. In this session Ms. Shalini Jain, Head- Research & Advocacy, SEEDS, INDIA gave an introduction on this symposium. Prof. Mahmuder Rahman, Co-Ordinator, DCH Trust, Ali Ahmed Zia Uddin, Researcher & Activist in Bangladesh, Dr. Salamat Khandker, Associate Professor Daffodils University and Mahbub Jamil, Former Advisor- Caretaker Government of Bangladesh, Former Senior Regional Vice President, Singer Asia gave their speech as guests. In their speech they mentioned that every nation should have the full understanding on disaster risk reduction, influence global policy in local level, focused on earthquake, green house gas effect and work plan to reduce disaster risk etc.



ACTIVITY SESSION

Session - 1

The symposium was started with the session 1 on Emerging issues at the frontline. **Prof. Mahmuder Rahman**, Co-ordinator, DCH Trust and **Mr. Ali Ahmed Zia Uddin**, Researcher and Activist in Bangladesh chaired this session

Prof. Quazi Quamruzzaman, Chairman, DCH Trust discussed on involvement of local community, government and private sector both in financial and implementation. In his discussion he wanted to know to the participants about the knowledge of Sendai. He also mentioned that there was a plan in Sendai regarding Disaster Risk Reduction and Management. Finally he stated that to sustain DRR, involvement and strengthen the local community, government and private sector in financial and implement is essential.

In this session **Ms. Taslima Akter**, Co-ordinator, Bangladesh Workers Solidarity (BGWS) gave a presentation on Accountability in Humanitarian Action. In her presentation she focused on Humanity, Impartiality and Independence. Ensuring compensation with dignity, maintain national and international law, take proper initiatives to protect affected peoples life she added.

Ms. Bithun Tasnuva Mazid, Senior Sector Specialist, Disaster Management and Climate Change, BRAC presented a presentation on Climate Change and Resilience – Bangladesh perspective. She started her presentation by showing a video on BRAC activities. In her presentation she focused on community based adaptation for disaster management and climate change.

Session – 2

The topic of this session was National Priorities, which was chaired by **Prof. Quazi Quamruzzaman**, Chairman, DCH Trust.

Ms. Hafiza Sultana Suchanda, Chemist, DCH Trust gave a presentation on CEOs: Capacity Building on Disaster Management for Worker Safety. In her presentation she focused on National Priorities on Disaster Management like Industrial Safety, Cyclone, Drought and Earthquake Preparedness.

“Reducing Earthquake risk in urban, rural and coastal settings” was discussed by **Md. Arfaqul Alam Ribo**, Dwip Unnayan Sangstha (DUS). In this presentation he focused on assessment of vulnerability, hazard, community participation and risk to the community.

Shwkat Ali Tutul, Assistant Director, Social Accountability and DRR, COAST Trust gave a presentation on climate change linkage of DRR and sustainable development. In his presentation he focused on Risk Assessment and Adoption target to DRR and sustainable development. He also coated a point “reducing the carbon by under-developed country, the developed countries are purchasing the result by paying in cash”

Discussion Session

After the presentations in above two sessions the discussion sessions was taken place. In this session the following points came out

- We have to follow Ceuta Protocol on Climate Changes
- We have to give more attention to reduce risk and manage within disaster
- Risk is invested to adoption



Group Discussion

The group discussion was taken place after the presentation. The main purpose of this session was to make an action plan on the following issues. These group discussions were facilitated by one facilitator in each group.

Group 1: Community Risk Reduction Plan – DRR & Climate Change

Group 2: Capacity Building of Community, Reduce vulnerability and Hazard-Risk Assessment

Group 3: The Humanitarian accountability Partnership (HAP) International

Group 4: Building Resilient of Communities & protecting them from hazard-DRR

Group 5: Earthquake risk identification, assessment & mitigation plan

Group 6: Emergency Response on Disaster – Health Education and Life

Before starting the group discussion Ms. Shalini Jain, Head- Research & Advocacy, SEEDS, INDIA gave an instruction to make the action plan. In her instruction she mentioned the following points

- Have to find out the Barriers on above issues
- How can we overcome the barriers

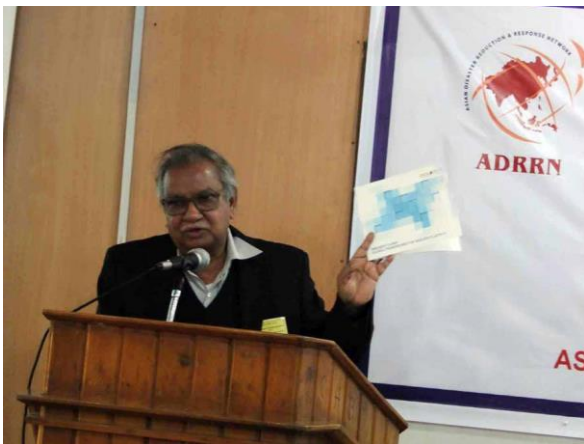
After completion of the group discussion the facilitators and group leaders of each group presented their findings regarding the action plan.



CLOSING SESSION

In the closing session Quazi Habibur Rahman, Trustee, DCH Trust, Prof. Mahmuder Rahman, Co-ordinator, DCH Trust, Md. Sabirul Islam, Deputy Secretary, GoB, Gawher Nayeem Wahre, Adjunct Faculty University of Dhaka, director (Disaster Management & Climate Change, BRAC) gave their closing speech on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management. Mr. Mahbub Jamil, Former Advisor-Caretaker Government of Bangladesh, Former Senior Regional Vice President, Singer Asia the vote of thanks of this symposium. In their speech the coated on the following issues

- Strengthen the local government
- Increase own responsibilities
- Need proper leadership



NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In this daylong symposium many issues were discussed on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management. From the discussion and presentation many point came out as National Priorities and Recommendations, which are as follows.

- Ensure basic training and education at grass root level, link between BRR and climate change
- Reduce discrimination in education
- Research on climate resilient crops and promote seed to farmers
- Annual reports, audit report including photos should be published both in printing and website
- More river digging, tree plantation and mass awareness to the community people
- Take immediate steps like rescue, emergency medical service, food and water and shelter support for the affected people during disaster like flood, cyclone, river erosion and earthquake victims
- Ensure the community support and participation for sustaining DRR programme
- Proper implementation of law and enforcement
- Strengthen the local government
- Increase own responsibilities
- Increase proper leadership

