

PROJECT TITLE: EMERGENCY DISASTER RESPONSE IN FLASH FLOOD-AFFECTED AREAS OF BANGLADESH

PROJECT PERIOD: 1 Month (27th June 2022- 26th July 2022)

REPORTING: COMPLETION REPORT

IMPLEMENTED BY: COMMUNITY INITIATIVE SOCIETY (CIS)

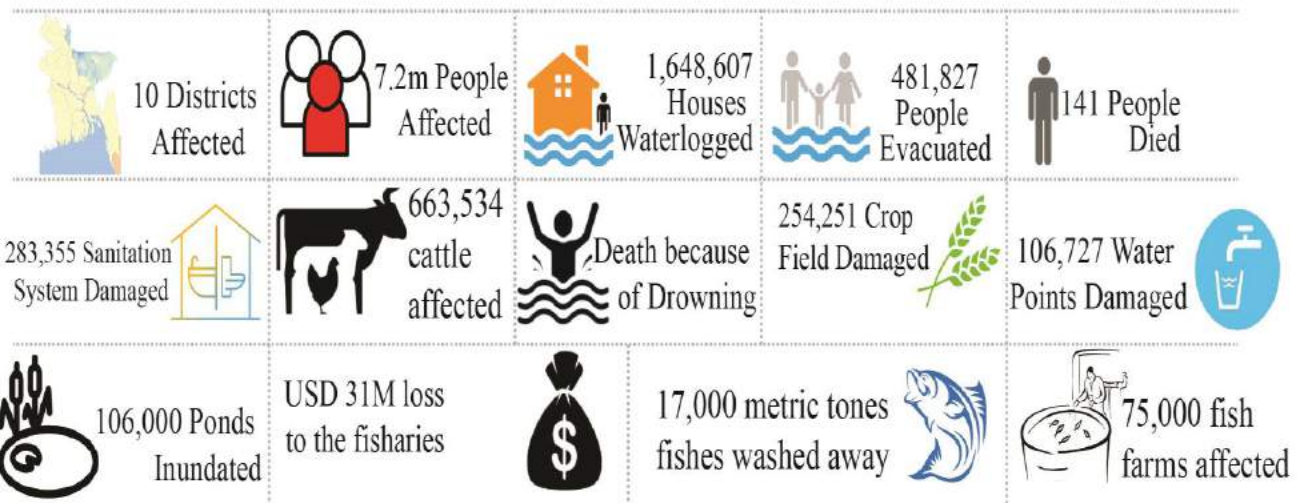
SUPPORTED BY: ASIA PACIFIC ALLIANCE FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT (A-PAD)

Background:

Heavy monsoon rains and water flowing downstream from India's northeast have inundated large parts of the Sylhet division, leaving millions of people marooned and triggering a humanitarian crisis. The flash floods that started on the 15th of June swept away homes and inundated farmlands, forcing families to seek shelter on higher ground and temporary flood shelters. The extent of the flooding has surpassed any in decades including the ones in 1998 and 2004. 7.2 million of people were freshly marooned by floods in the northern and north-eastern regions as the country's major rivers, including the Brahmaputra, Jamuna, Meghna, and Padma, continued to swell, flowing above the danger level at many places. More than 5 million people residing on the Bank of The River have been suffering from these devastating consequences. Nearly 10 Districts, 53 Upazilas, and 410 Unions have been highly flooded including Sylhet, Sunamganj, Habiganj, Moulovibazar, Brahamanbaria, Kishorganj, Netrakona, Rangpur, Nilphamari, and Kurigram. The Government asked the Bangladesh defense force to manage the situation. The Army started rescuing in the affected areas. Facilities and management are not adequate to manage the huge flood-affected population. So, there is a need for an integrated approach by the government, NGOs, and international donor agencies for damage recovery and long-term solutions.

Situation Analysis:

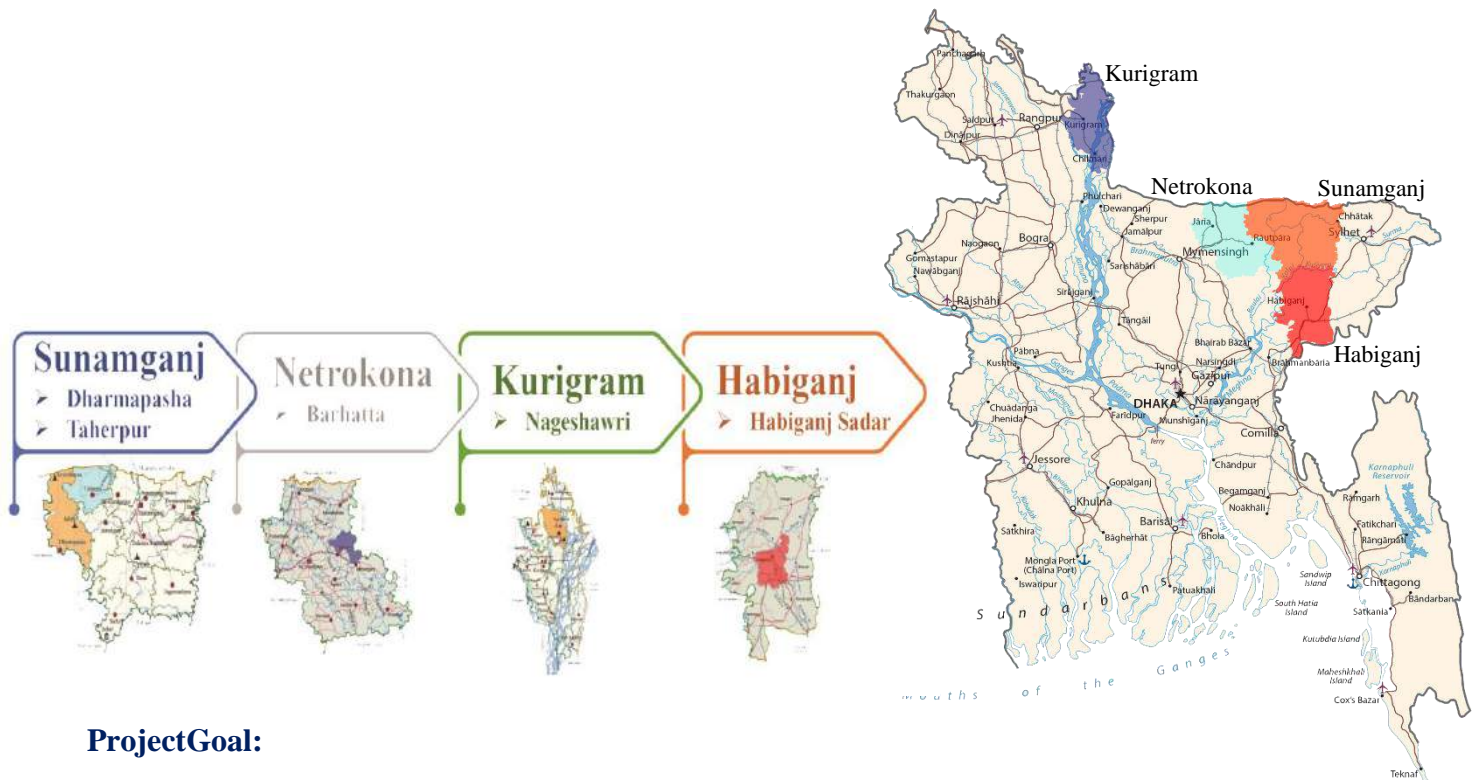
The June floods struck the people of the region as they were recovering from another unexpected recent flash flood in late May. As many as 472,856 people have been taken to around 1,605 shelter centres in a combined effort of the Army, Navy, Fire Service, local authorities and NGOs according to the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR). Many households are isolated due to floods, while some have taken shelter in open areas. The safety and security of women and girls in those households are at high risk. The Department of Public Health and Engineering (DPHE) informs that 106,727 water points were damaged, and 283,355 latrines are damaged. The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries informed that 663,534 cattle were affected, and the Ministry of Agriculture informed that 254,251 hector croplands damaged.



Program Objectives:

- To reduce the hunger situation by providing food supplementary to the vulnerable people;
- To improve the health status of disaster-affected people through healthcare assistance and medicine supply.

Working Areas:



Project Goal:

A-PAD Bangladesh planned to do following activities for the emergency response Flash Flood response program at the 5 areas in 4 districts.

- A-PAD Bangladesh provided food pack to the flood affected people reduce hunger at that crucial time;
- Organized public health camps to improve the health conditions to the flood affected vulnerable communities;

Emergency Response:

- Rescue to the flood affected community and rehabilitate to the shelter;
- Distributed food pack 1000 families so that they can fulfill their nutrition;
- Distributed 10000 ORS for mitigating diarrhea;

- Provided 10000 water purification tablet for protecting from water borne disease;
- Conducted 8 public health camps with medicines to improve the health conditions to the flood affected community.
- About 6,610 people got primary health care and medicine

Brief Description of the Activities:

A-PAD Bangladesh chose 4 districts for the emergency flood response which are Sunamganj, Netrokona, Habiganj and Kurigram. Among them Sunamganj was the most affected areas. A-PAD Bangladesh selected Barhatta from Netrokona, Habiganj Sadar from Habiganj, Nageshwari, Dharmapasha and Taherpur from Sunamganj district.



Sunamganj Flood Response:

The flood situation in Sunamganj took a turn for the worse due to the onrush of water from the upstream and rainfall. The Surma and the Kushiara rivers are flowing above their danger levels at some points. The low-lying areas of Taherpur and Dharmapadha upazilas are seeing a rise in floodwaters. Many roads in Dharmapasha and Taherpur went underwater, increasing the suffering of the flood victims. A-PAD Bangladesh. A-PAD Bangladesh organized 4 health camps in Sunamganj District among them 2 of Dharmapasha Upazilla and 2 in Taherpur. During the flood situation major issues is food and health. In Dharpasha Upazila health camp total 1300 patients and Taherpur Upazilla 1500 patients got treatment. A-PAD Bangladesh distributed food pack, Water purification tablets and ORS among 200 families in Taherpur and 200 families in Dharmapasha upazilla. Before distributing A-PAD Bangladesh gave brief description and use of water purification tablets and ORS so that they could use it properly. Most of the houses were abandoned and but people have to stay their houses during day time for secure their assets. A-PAD Bangladesh team make a list of the people and distributed them accordingly. For the distribution A-PAD Bangladesh prioritize the elderly and the disable persons, but it was tried to deliver all the relief items to the vulnerable communities.

SL NO	Place	Food Pack	ORS	Water Purification Tablet	Health Camp Beneficiaries
1.	Dharmapasha	200 Families	200 Families	200 Families	1300 Persons
2.	Taherpur	200 Families	200 Families	200 Families	1500 Persons



Door to Door Food Pack Distribution



Door to Door Food Pack Distribution



Public health camp



Public Health camp

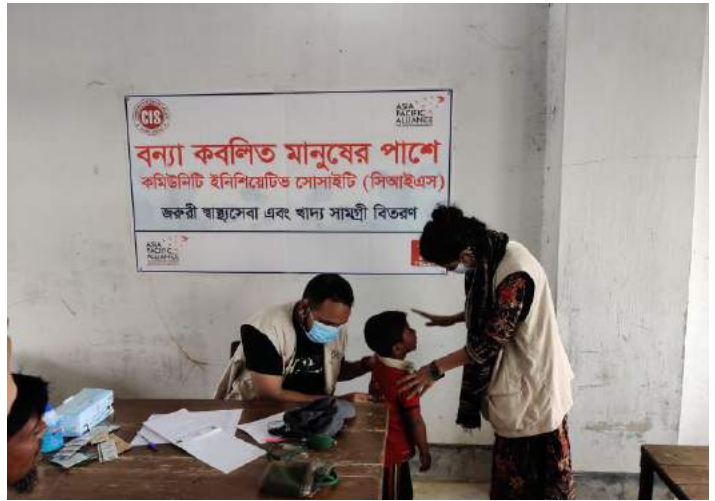
Habiganj Flood Response:

The floodwaters have overflowed the dams in Habiganj district and flooded the roads. According to the Flood Forecast and Warning Centre, the waters on the Kushiara flew 160 cm above the danger point at Amalshid and 63 cm above the danger point at Shaola Point. Habiganj have suffered nearly Tk500 crore loss during the flash-flood in sectors like agriculture, livestock, fisheries, infrastructure and educational institutions. A total of 187 kilometres of roads, 68 metres of bridges and culverts have been damaged by the floods, according to the Local Government Engineering Department. A-PAD Bangladesh conducted 2 health camps at the Habiganj districts where 1050 patients has been benefited. In Habiganj food pack, water purification tablet and ORS distributed among 200 families.

SL NO	Place	Food Pack	ORS	Water Purification Tablet	Health Camp Beneficiaries
1.	Habiganj Sadar	200 Families	200 Families	200 Families	1050 Persons



Public Health Camp



Public Health Camp



Food Pack Distribution



Food Pack Distribution

Netrokona Flood Response:

Residents in 39 unions in six Upazilas of Netrokona district were affected by floods amid a rise in water levels on major rivers in the district. According to the local Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) office, the water was flowing at 63 centimeters above the danger level. Many houses, roads, and educational institutions in Netrokona Sadar Upazila, Barhatta, Purbadhala, Khaliajuri, Kalmakanda and Durgapur were affected by floods. Some areas on the bank of rivers have faced river erosion. Local administrations were trying to prevent erosion by installing geo-bags. A-PAD Bangladesh communicated with the local authority for the distributions and organizing the health camp. In Barhatta health camp total 1260 patients got treatment and medicines. A list has been made with the help of local authority according to their needs. In everywhere emergency response A-PAD working with the local GOVT. so that the affected people got the support and overlapping can be minimized.

SL NO	Place	Food Pack	ORS	Water Purification Tablet	Health Camp Beneficiaries
1.	Barhatta	200 Families	200 Families	200 Families	1260 Persons



Food pack Distribution



Food pack Distribution



Public Health Camp



Public Health Camp

Kurigram Flood Response:

Kurigram District is located in the northern region of Bangladesh along the border with India. district of Mymensingh division to the south Gaibandha, Rangpur and Lalmonirhat districts as well as West Bengal state of India to the west, and the Indian states of Assam and Meghalaya to the east. In total, the district has 278.28 kilometers of international border with India. The district consists of 9 upazilas, 72 unions, and 1,872 villages. Major disaster in the Kurigram district are drought, flood and cold wave. During the summer session most of the water bodies getting dry as a result summer session people are facing drought and water scarcity problems. After the summer rainy session comes and during rainy session flood occurred and at the winter session people are facing problems of cold wave. Almost all the year people affected by the disaster and as a result Kurigram is the most vulnerable district in Bangladesh. A-PAD Bangladesh conducted 2 health camps at the Nageshawri upazilla at the Kurigram district which was mostly affected and 1500 patients got benefitted. It was also distributed food pack, water purification tablets and ORS to the vulnerable community.

SL NO	Place	Food Pack	ORS	Water Purification Tablet	Health Camp Beneficiaries
1.	Nageshwari	200 Families	200 Families	200 Families	1500 Persons



Food pack Distribution



Food pack Distribution



Public Health Camp



Public Health Camp

Beneficiaries Summary:

SL NO	District	Response Areas	Food Pack	ORS	Water Purification Tablet	Health Camp Beneficiaries
1.	Sunamganj	Dharmapasha	200 Families	200 Families	200 Families	1300 Persons
2.		Taherpur	200 Families	200 Families	200 Families	1500 Persons
3.	Netrokona	Barhatta	200 Families	200 Families	200 Families	1050 Persons
4.	Habiganj	Habiganj Sadar	200 Families	200 Families	200 Families	1260 Persons
5.	Kurigram	Nageshwari	200 Families	200 Families	200 Families	1500 Persons
Total			1000 Families	1000 Families	1000 Families	6610 Persons

Success Story:

Survival Story of Jamila Begum

I lived with my 3 sons, 1 daughter & my husband. I am only the earning member of the family as my husband is a disable person. That night I slept with my family and suddenly I heard the loud sound from our neighbor. I saw water entering into my room enormously. I was so panic that I could not understand what to do. I just came out from our house with all family members and saw the water level is rising so rapidly. I desired to find a boat anyhow. But nobody helped me that time because everyone was busy to survive for themselves. My two son Rahim & Azad were trying to manage to save their disabled father. My youngest child, Monir & daughter, Rozina could not swim and I was so helpless to manage them. I was trying to take them nearest high place but found nothing. The water waves were so strong that it tried to take away all the things. I was swimming with my two kids and suddenly something big wood material hit my body so badly that my little son was escaped from my hand. The water washed my son at least 500 meter away from me. I cried so loudly to seek help. Suddenly I saw a boat was coming towards me and they rescued my entire family member. I thanked to the Almighty and the rescued team.



“I lost my hens, ducks, goats, cows and all my documents and valuable materials. I could not take anything with me because everything got washed away. I could not eat anything except small amount of Flattened rice in last 7 days. All of my family members are hungry and safe water crisis is so much right now.”

Jamila Begum
Nakholkhola, Dharmapasha, Sunamganj

Disaster and Disabilities

Dharmapasha upazilla is located under the Sunamganj district, total area of the upazilla is 496 sqkm. It is bounded by Meghalaya State (India) on the north Mohanganj and Barhatta upazilas on the south, Tahirpur and Jamalganj upazilas on the east, Kalmakanda and Barhatta upazilas on the west. The area is bounded by Surma river and Kongsho river. Besides this Tanguar haor, Sialdigha beel, Pakertala beel, Firagang beel, Dhoroni beel, Joldhara beel, Dhankuniya beel, Sardha beel are notable. Flash flood is the major issue at Dharmapasha. Md. Jamal Uddin is disable person due to visually impaired by born and lives in the Paikurati village in Dharmapasha upazilla of Sunamganj district. His 1 brother, 1 sister and his parents' lives with him. On May the flood was started at the Sylhet and Sunamganj district. At the middle of the June the flood situation getting worse and suddenly the water level increased up to 4 ft. high from the ground level. At that time his family members tried to protect him and also the livestock. His father is older person and unable to protect himself at that situation. Jamal's brother and cousins managed a boat and kept them to the shelter. After coming to rescues the cows and goats they found nothing because all are washed away due to flash flood. At the shelter Jamal and his family ate only dry food, in some days they ate nothing. After few days later they have to come back house for their safety and security. A-PAD Bangladesh reached to their village and organized health camp and distributed food pack to the flood affected people. After getting the food pack they were so much happy that after 10 days they could eat cocked food properly by their own.

“I was at the home suddenly felt the water entered into the house. I realized that the water level getting increased. I felt fear and shouted to call my brother's name but no one came to me. My father was with me and I hold him strongly to keep him safe. Suddenly my brother came and took us to the shelter. Keeping there they came back to rescue the cattle and goats. But unfortunately they found nothing. After few days later many people came to the shelter and my brother took us to the home. From the beginning of the flood time we only ate dry food, sometimes we ate nothing. We are really happy that we got the health services and eat cooked food today after 10 days.



Survival Story of Kulsum Akter

Kulsum Akter is a housewife and lives with her 1 son, 1 daughter & husband. She is only the earning member of the family as her husband is a disable person. That night she slept with her family and suddenly she heard the loud sound from our neighbor. She saw water entering into her room enormously. She was so panicked that could not understand what to do. She just came out from their house with all family members and saw the water level was rising so rapidly. She desired to find a boat anyhow. But nobody helped her that time because everyone was busy to survive for themselves. Her son Rahim was trying to manage to save his disabled father. She was so helpless to manage them. She was trying to take them nearest high place but found nothing. The water waves were so strong that it tried to take away all the things. She was swimming with her two kids and suddenly something big wood material hit her body so badly. The water washed her son at least 500 meters away from her. She cried so loudly to seek help. Suddenly she saw a boat was coming towards me and they rescued her entire family member. She thanked to the Almighty and the rescued team. During the flood she has lost all her valuable items, livestock and documents. After taking shelter, she and her family did not eat properly. Because of the flood water her daughter getting sick and had symptom of cold. A-PAD Bangladesh did public health camp at their place and gave treatment and medicine to her daughter. She got the food pack with the other people in her village. She was thankful to the A-PAD team for the support during this emergency situation.



“I lost my hens, ducks, goats, cows and all my documents and valuable materials. I could not take anything with me because everything got washed away. I could not eat anything except small amount of Flattened rice in last 7 days. All of my family members are hungry, safe water crisis and became sick. My five months old daughter could not breath properly and unable to suck breast milk. But suddenly I saw the A-PAD Team and got the proper checkup and medication, they also gave us food. After that I could feed to my family” In this emergency situation after having this type of medical service and food, I really thankful and express gratitude to CIS and A-PAD.

Conclusion:

Flood impact is one of the most significant disasters in the world. More than half of global flood damages occur in Asia. Causes of floods are due to natural factors such as heavy rainfall, high floods and high tides, etc., and human factors such as blocking of channels or aggravation of drainage channels, improper land use, deforestation in headwater regions, etc. Problems become more critical due to more severe and frequent flooding likely caused by climate change, socio-economic damage, population affected, public outcry and limited funds. Flood loss prevention and mitigation includes structural flood control measures such as construction of dams or river dikes and non-structural measures such as flood forecasting and warning, flood hazard and risk management, public participation and institutional arrangement, etc. This paper describes concepts, policy, plan and operation on integrated urban flood disaster and risk management. During the flash flood 2022 the areas affect to fast that community could not take any precaution regarding this. A-PAD Bangladesh responded at the vulnerable community and provided services at door to door so that everyone can survive during that situations.

