



**PROJECT TITLE: THE EMERGENCY DISASTER RESPONSE
EFFORTS FOR UNDERWAY IN THE AREAS OF BANGLADESH
AFFECTED BY FLASH FLOODS IN 2024**

PROJECT PERIOD: 29 AUGUST 2024- 28 SEPTEMBER 2024)

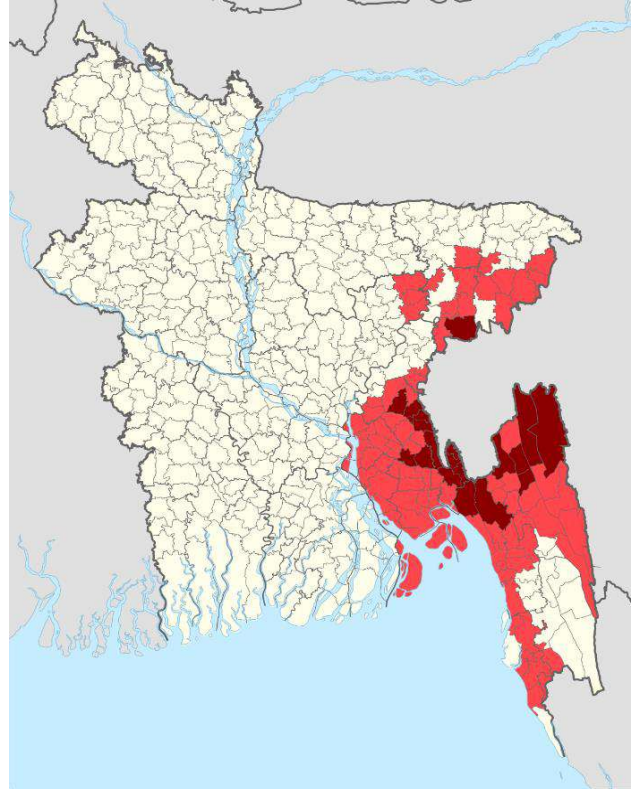
REPORTING: COMPLETION REPORT

IMPLEMENTED BY: COMMUNITY INITIATIVE SOCIETY (CIS)

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

Background:

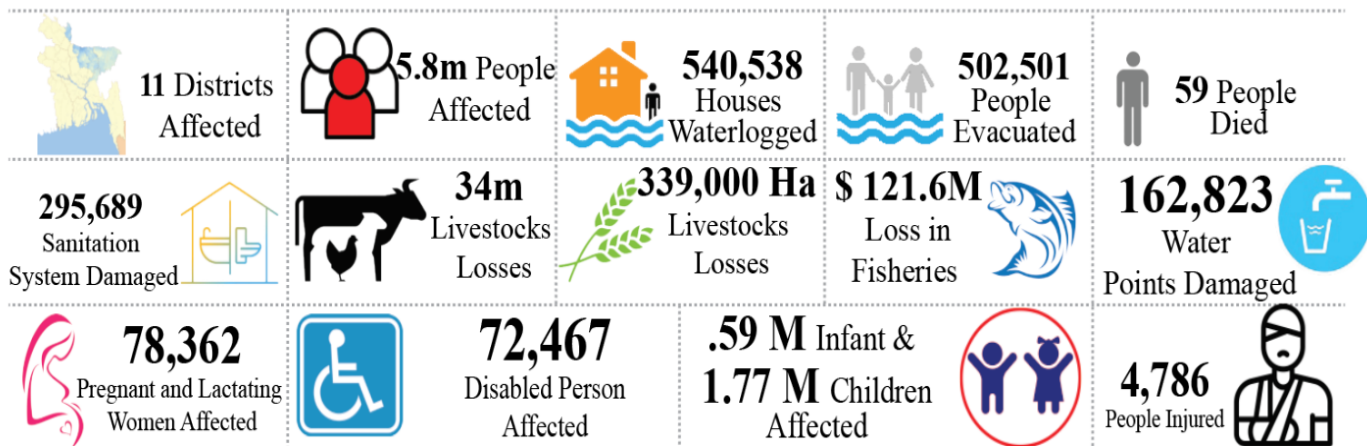
Flash floods have caused significant devastation in eleven districts located in the northeastern and southeastern regions of Bangladesh, primarily due to prolonged and heavy monsoon rains linked to an active monsoon system combined with a low-pressure area. As reported by the National Disaster Response Coordination Center (NDRCC), approximately 5.8 million individuals in these regions are facing the dire consequences of the flooding. The tragic toll has reached 33 fatalities, with specific reports indicating that five victims were from Chattogram, four from Cumilla, three from both Noakhali and Cox's Bazar, and one death each in Feni, Brahmanbaria, and Lakkhipur districts. The flooding has inundated a staggering total of 339,000 hectares of land, resulting in widespread destruction. The districts most severely impacted include Noakhali, Comilla, Lakshmipur, Feni, Chattogram, and Moulvibazar. Rural infrastructure, such as roads, agricultural fields, and fishponds, have been entirely submerged, effectively cutting off essential access routes and severely disrupting local livelihoods. The flooding has also led to extended power outages and limited connectivity, which are seriously hampering communication efforts and coordination for disaster response. In addition to the immediate threat to life and property, the educational sector has faced a significant setback; over 7,000 schools have had to close their doors due to flooding. This closure affects an estimated 1,750,000 primary students, depriving them of their education during this crucial period. The multifaceted impact of the flooding reveals a grave humanitarian crisis, highlighting the urgent need for assistance and recovery efforts in the affected areas.



Situation Analysis:

In August, the region experienced significant flooding, compounding the challenges faced by communities already recovering from a previous flash flood earlier in the month. According to the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR), approximately 540,538 individuals have been relocated to around 3,403 shelter centers through the collaborative efforts of the Army, Navy, Fire Service, local authorities,

and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The flooding has led to the isolation of numerous households, with some individuals seeking refuge in open areas. Unfortunately, the safety and security of women and girls within these households are particularly at risk. The Department of Public Health and Engineering (DPHE) has reported that 162,823 water points and 295,689 latrines have been damaged as a result of the flooding. Additionally, the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries has indicated that 34 million livestock have been affected, while the Ministry of Agriculture has noted that 339,000 hectares of cropland have sustained damage.



Program Summary:

Main aim to improve the condition of the flood-affected vulnerable population in Lakhmipur and Noakhali by offering essential food supplies, hygiene kit and medical aid, including necessary healthcare support and medication.

Program Objectives:

- To address food insecurity by supplying supplementary food to vulnerable populations.
- To enhance the health conditions of individuals impacted by disasters through medical aid and access to medication.
- Effective management of menstrual hygiene is essential in empowering women, girls, and individuals who menstruate to achieve their utmost potential.



Project Goal:

A-PAD Bangladesh planned to do following activities for the emergency response Flash Flood response program at the 2 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;
- Distributing menstrual hygiene essentials materials to the flood affected women and girls.

Emergency Response:

- Rescue to the flood affected community and rehabilitate to the shelter;
- Distributed food pack 330 families so that they can fulfill their nutrition;
- Distributed 6,300 ORS for mitigating diarrhea;
- Provided 9,450 water purification tablet for protecting from water borne disease;
- Distributed 200 hygiene kits to the women and girls;
- Conducted 4 public health camps with medicines to improve the health conditions to the flood affected community.
- About 4,350 people got primary health care and medicine

Lakhipur Flood Response:

The recent flood situation in Lakhipur has deteriorated significantly due to the influx of water from upstream sources and continuous rainfall. Water levels in certain areas of the Meghna River have exceeded danger thresholds, adversely impacting the low-lying regions of Ramgati and Raipur upazilas, where floodwaters are steadily rising. Many roads in Lakhipur have been submerged, exacerbating the plight of those affected by the floods. In response to these challenges, A-PAD Bangladesh has initiated two health camps in the Raipur area of Lakhipur District. The primary concerns during this crisis have been health and food security. At the health camps, a total of 2,250 patients received medical treatment. Furthermore, A-PAD Bangladesh distributed food packs, water purification tablets, and Oral Rehydration Salts (ORS) to 165 families in Raipur upazila. Prior to distribution, A-PAD Bangladesh provided a brief overview of the proper use of water purification tablets and ORS to ensure that recipients could utilize these resources effectively. To promote safety, mutual care, and hygiene, A-PAD Bangladesh has distributed 100 sanitary napkins to women and girls in the community. This initiative aims to address menstrual health needs and empower women by ensuring they have access to essential hygiene products. By providing these sanitary napkins, A-PAD Bangladesh is helping to improve the overall well-being and dignity of women and girls, fostering a more supportive environment for their health and hygiene needs. While many homes have been abandoned, residents are compelled to remain in their houses during the daytime to safeguard their belongings. The A-PAD Bangladesh team systematically compiled a list of individuals in need and organized the distribution accordingly. Prioritization was given to elderly and disabled individuals; however, there was a concerted effort to extend assistance to all vulnerable community members.

SL NO	Place	Food Pack	ORS	Water Purification Tablet	Hygiene Kit	Health Camp Beneficiaries
1.	Raipur	165 Families	315 Families	315 Families	100 persons	1,620 Persons



Public Health Camp



Public Health Camp



Public Health Camp



Public Health Camp



Food Pack Distribution



Food Pack Distribution



Food Pack Distribution



Food Pack Distribution

Noakhali Flood Response:

The flood situation in Noakhali has significantly deteriorated recently, primarily due to a surge of water from upstream combined with heavy rainfall. The low-lying regions, particularly Gonipur and Choumuhani in Begumganj upazila, are experiencing a marked rise in floodwaters. This has resulted in many roads and houses being submerged, leading to an increase in the suffering and hardship faced by the affected community members. In response to the escalating crisis, the organizations CIS (Community Initiative Society) and A-PAD (Asia-Pacific Alliance for Disaster Management) have stepped in to provide much-needed assistance. They have distributed food packages and essential non-food items, including water purification tablets, mosquito nets, oral rehydration salts (ORS), and various hygiene commodities, which have reached 165 families so far. Additionally, hygiene kits have been distributed to 100 vulnerable women across various villages within the Begumganj upazila.

Before the distribution of these vital resources, A-PAD Bangladesh conducted a brief educational session to inform the recipients about the proper use of water purification tablets and ORS. This guidance ensures that the recipients can utilize these items effectively to safeguard their health, especially amid the sanitation challenges posed by the flooding. Although many homes have been abandoned, families have been compelled to remain at their residences during the daytime to protect their belongings from potential theft and damage. To facilitate the distribution process, the CIS team has diligently compiled a list of affected individuals, ensuring a structured approach to aid. The distribution efforts are guided by specific prioritization criteria set by DCHT (Disaster and Community Health Team), which focuses on assisting households that are particularly vulnerable. This includes households with pregnant women or infants, female-headed households, those with elderly individuals, families with disabled members, and low-income households. By adhering to these criteria, the organizations aim to maximize the impact of their support and ensure that the most vulnerable members of the community receive the assistance they desperately need during this challenging time.

SL NO	Place	Food Pack	ORS	Water Purification Tablet	Hygiene Kit	Health Camp Beneficiaries
1.	Choumuhani	165 Families	315 Families	315 Families	100 persons	1,530 Persons



Public Health Camp



Public Health Camp



Public health camp



Public Health camp



Food Pack Distribution



Food Pack Distribution



Food Pack Distribution



Food Pack Distribution

SUPPORT FROM THE PARTNERS:

Community Initiative Society initiated a crowd funding campaign aimed at providing crucial support to the flood-affected communities in the regions of Cumilla, Feni, Noakhali, and Lakkhipur. As the flood situation worsened, CIS swiftly deployed a dedicated team to assist those most impacted in Noakhali and Cumilla. In a significant effort to alleviate hunger and provide relief, CIS successfully supported 5,000 families by distributing essential dry food supplies. Subsequently, through a collaborative effort with the Bangladesh Army, CIS was able to extend its support to an additional 10,000 families, ensuring they received much-needed food provisions during this challenging time. Recognizing the importance of health in disaster recovery, CIS partnered with local organizations, including DCH Trust, to establish public health camps in Cumilla. As a result, they provided medical assistance to 1,800 patients, addressing various health concerns that arose in the aftermath of the floods. Furthermore, with the generous support of Akij Group, CIS expanded its health initiatives, assisting 6,000 patients across four different areas. This comprehensive approach not only addressed immediate food and healthcare needs but also aimed to promote the overall well-being of the affected communities in their recovery journey.

SL NO	Description	Number of Beneficiaries	Remarks
1.	Food Support for Flood Affected People	5,000 Families	
2.	Handed over Food Pack to Bangladesh Army	10,000 Families	
3.	Organized Public Health Camp in Cumilla	1,800 Patients	
4.	Organize health camps with Akij Groups and Local Partners (4 Areas)	16,000 Patients	



Food Pack Distribution



Food Pack Handover to Bangladesh Army



Food Pack Distribution



Food Pack Distribution



Public Health Camp-Cumilla



Public Health Camp-Cumilla



Public Health Camp with Akij Group



Public Health Camp with Akij Group



Public Health Camp with Akij Group



Public Health Camp with Akij Group

News Paper Publication:

The local newspaper recently highlighted the community initiative society, alongside A-PAD, to address flood response activities. This initiative is aimed at providing crucial support and resources for those affected by flooding in our region. The article details various activities organized by both entities, emphasizing their collaborative efforts to enhance community resilience and recovery. Through this partnership, they are working diligently to raise awareness, distribute essential supplies, and offer assistance to individuals and families impacted by the floods. The support from the local community has been invaluable in these endeavors, showcasing the community's commitment to standing together during challenging times.

Newspaper Link:

1. <https://channelbogra.com/a-pad-এর-নোয়াখালী-বন্যা-দুর্গতদের-মাঝে-মেডিকেল-ক্যাম্প-ও-খাদ্য-সামগ্রী-বিতরণ>
2. [বন্যা দুর্গতদের মাঝে মেডিকেল ক্যাম্প ও খাদ্য সামগ্রী বিতরণ – দৈনিক নোয়াখালীর কথা](#)
3. [নোয়াখালী বন্যা দুর্গতদের মাঝে সিআইএস এর উদ্যোগে মেডিকেল ক্যাম্প ঔষধ ও খাদ্য সামগ্রী বিতরণ করা হয়েছে। | By News plus television | Facebook](#)



Conclusion:

Flooding is recognized as one of the most significant natural disasters affecting communities across the globe. Alarmingly, more than half of all flood-related damages are concentrated in Asia, underscoring the region's vulnerability. The causes of floods can be categorized into natural and human-induced factors. Natural factors include heavy rainfall events, seasonal high floods, and elevated tides, which can overwhelm waterways and landscapes. On the other hand, human activities such as the obstruction of water channels, the deterioration of drainage systems, haphazard land use, and deforestation in upstream areas exacerbate the risk and severity of flooding. The situation is further aggravated by the increasing intensity and frequency of flooding events, which many experts attribute to the impacts of climate change. This changing climate, coupled with socio-economic vulnerabilities, leads to significant damage to infrastructure, displacement of populations, and widespread public concern. The economic toll of flooding is profound, often leaving affected populations with limited resources and recovery options.

To combat flood risks and mitigate potential losses, a combination of structural and non-structural measures is crucial. Structural interventions often include the construction of dams and river dikes, which aim to control the flow of water and protect communities. Non-structural measures are equally important and encompass flood forecasting and early warning systems, effective flood hazard and risk management strategies, public engagement initiatives, and the establishment of institutional arrangements to coordinate responses. During the flash flood event of 2024, certain areas were affected so rapidly that communities were unable to take any precautionary measures to protect themselves. In response to the dire situation, A-PAD Bangladesh took swift action to assist the most vulnerable populations. They provided essential support services directly to people's homes, ensuring that every individual received the help they needed to endure these challenging circumstances and enhance their chances of survival.

