



CMDRR FORUM BULLETIN

Community Participation and Implementation is what we mean to promote

10th Issue: August 2013

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What is Disaster Risk Reduction?

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) involves analyzing and managing hazards to reduce vulnerability to disasters. Effective DRR reduces disaster losses, preserving the social, economic and environmental assets of communities and populations. As such, it reduces the need for costly disaster response and subsequent recovery measures. DRR involves policies and activities that help prevent natural hazards (such as floods, storms, droughts, earthquakes) becoming disasters, which support preparedness for these hazards, and lessen the damage they can cause.

What is CMDRR ?

Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR) is a process follows a number of participatory approaches for community hazard analysis and risk assessment leading to undertake joint action plan (prevention, mitigation, increase survivability, community readiness) to reduce vulnerability and risk.

CMDRR emphasizes community engagement in all aspects of assessment → plan → implementation → monitoring through community organization.

CMDRR Forum, Bangladesh is launching for 4th year:

Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR) Forum, Bangladesh is led by Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) and using its Head Office as Forum's secretariat. Cordaid – the Netherlands, finances this Forum. 13 member organizations (ADD, Caritas-Bangladesh, CUB, DAM, FFH, Friendship, INDAB, PGUK, Pidim Foundation, POPI, RDRS, VARD & YPSA) formed this Forum with an aim to strengthen coordination among the Community Managed Disaster Risks Reduction (CMDRR) concept and broaden its necessity in the context of Bangladesh. To materi-

alize the DRR through community initiatives CMDRR Forum, Bangladesh intend to enhance capacity of both organizational and individuals of the practitioners over the country. Forum organized different capacity building activities at the peripheral level of the country through partners' intensive supports. At present Forum is also paying special interest in Climate Change and its impacts issues nationally and internationally through organizing different workshops and forum's quarterly bulletin.

CMDRR Forum, Bangladesh is started it's forth phase activities. The phase started from May 2013 and will be continued until April, 2014. The major activities of this phase are as follows:

1. School Based Awareness and Simulation Exercise in Dhaka
2. Workshop on Consolidation of CMDRR Philosophy and Climate Change
3. National Sharing Workshop on CMDRR and emerging DRR issues in Bangladesh context
4. Issue based Workshop (Flood, river erosion/ land slide)
5. Idea, Experience & Lesson Sharing
6. International/National/Regional Sharing Meeting/Communication
7. Day Observation related to disaster preparedness (Environment/NDPD/IDDR)
8. Quarterly Meeting
9. Publications
10. Visibility / Website Maintenance
11. Documentation & Documentary on good practices on CMDRR/ Reporting

15th Quarterly meeting of CMDRR Forum, Bangladesh

15th Quarterly meeting of CMDRR Forum, Bangladesh held was on 17 July/2013 at Concern Universal-Bangladesh. Banani, Dhaka. A total number of 15 participants from member organizations actively participated in the meeting. Mr. Abdul Hamid, Head, Education & OD of Concern Uneversal-Bangladesh presided over the meeting while Dr. Ehsanur Rahman, Executive Director of Dhaka Ahsania Mission and Adviser of the Forum kindly was graced the meeting.



World Environment Day (WED) celebrated by CMDRR Forum, Bangladesh

World Environment Day was celebrated around the country on the 5th June this year. Theme for this day in this year was "Think Eat Save". CMDRR forum Bangladesh was observed the day along with GoB. Major event of the day were Rally and Seminar. The rally was organized on 1st June, 2013 in advance instead of 5th June due political turmoil at that moment in the country. The rally was ornamented with colorful poster, festoon, banner, caps and t-shirt. Rally started in front of Fine arts Institute & stopped journey at the premises of Osmani Memorial Auditorium. Seminar on the occasion of WED was organized in Bangabandhu International Conference Center for the inauguration of national afforestation campaign and tree fair on the occasion. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the program. Minister, ministry of Environment and Forest Dr. Hasan Mahmud MP was in the chair of the seminar. Secretary of the ministry of Environment and

Forest M Shafiqur Rahman Patwari, Director General of Department of Environment Golam Rabbani and Chief Conservator of Forests Md Yunus Ali were also attended in the seminar. Beside this CMDRR Forum Bangladesh was also displayed some festoon in the major roads of the capital Dhaka containing message relating to environment.



Workshop on Contingency Plan and DRR mandate

A workshop on Contingency Plan for DRR and DRR Mandate was held on 17 July 2013 at Concern Universal Bangladesh office at Banani. 16 expert participants from CMDRR Forum, Bangladesh member organizations such as DAM, FFH, Friendship, ADD, VARD, DAM, YPSA, Pidim Foundation, POPI, PGUK & CUB attended the workshop. Mr. Abdul Hamid, Head-Organizational Development and Education Unit-CUB was facilitated the workshop. With an elaborated presentation, he described the importance of having contingency plan and DRR mandate for an organization working in DRR sector. In the presentation he disseminate different contingency plans and DRR mandates to be followed and to create an own which is a direct action for strengthening the capacity of organization at policy level.

Later on Mr. Cornelis De Wolf, Country Director of Concern Universal Bangladesh intrigued a discussion among the participants by raising the frame of expectation from the forum. The expectation was to build the best network, lobby and forum for disaster preparedness and emergency response including all sorts of community managed disaster risk reduction activities.



Student: A Vital Force of CMDRR

The results through the good practice of DRR have helped students to be more active to implement CMDRR. School students of INDAB CMDRR working area are also circulating their knowledge of DRR strategy from family to society. On top of that, school teachers and members of school managing body also discussed on risk reduction at classes and from their own perspective. School students are trying best to focus on DRR in many programs. As a part of their effort, they exhibited simulation on DRR during annual sports and DRR was also selected as topic for inter school debate competition. Furthermore, school students formed volunteer team to serve during emergency and are also saving money from their tiffin; they are collecting fund to help the victims created by disaster. The students have realized that they have to save the county from the adverse effect created global climate change. As a result, they are very curious towards DRR. Thus there is a lively

atmosphere in the project area, which is the outcome of CMDRR project. These efforts will make the project sustainable.



Union Disaster Volunteer Conference-2013

Numbers of two Union Disaster Volunteer Conferences were held in two upazila of Mymensingh district on 12 & 13 June 2013. SHOUHARDO-II and CARE was jointly organized the program. Upzila Disaster Management Committee covering 11 unions of Nandail and Phulpur upazila organized it. Main objective of the conference was to distribute certificate and dress and SAR & EW equipment. Key event of the program were Discussion meeting, Certificate Distribution to UDV, Dress distribution to UDV, Simulation and cultural program. Upazila Chairman, UNO and other UzDMC members were also participated in the program. Fire service and civil defense authority was organized simulation program of the occasion of the conference. Guests were that This Union Disaster Volunteer Conference-2013 is very important for developing to Practice the culture of preparedness for safety. Hazards are the major threats for the poor and extreme poor those are the most vulnerable group in the society, destruction of properties and

lives enhance their poverty level. Every member of the family needs to be involved in disaster preparedness so that everyone should acquire knowledge what to do when disaster indoors observing the day on a specific issue provides some awareness massages on disaster risk reduction and disaster preparedness



Workshop on CMDRR at Upazila level Organized : With Joint Initiatives of Upazila Administrations of Sunamganj district and VARD

Workshops on Community managed Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR) at Upazila level are held with joint initiatives of Upazila administrations of Sunamganj district and VARD at 11:00 A.M. June'2013 under Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR) Phase-II Project supported by CORDAID, The Netherlands at the Conference Room of the Office of the Upazila Nirbahi Officer of Jamalganj, Bishwamvorpur, Sunamganj Sadar and Dokkhin Sunamganj. The respective Upazila Nirbahi Officers (UNOs) were present as the Chief Guest on the occasion and the respective Upazila Chairmans presided over the workshop. A total of 30-33 participants from different GO, NGO, civil society and VDRRG leaders were present each of the 4 workshops and most of them are head of department. Md. Fazlul Hoque, Project Manager and Md. Habibur Rashid, Coordinator (A & N) of VARD-CMDRR Phase-II Project moderated the workshops.

It is noteworthy that VARD has been implementing CMDRR Project since 2009 to reduce the risk of disaster of the target community through capacity building. Now this project is ongoing in 112 villages of 16 unions under 4 upazila such as Bishwamvorpur, Dokkhin Sunamganj, Sunamganj Sadar and Jamalganj of Sunamganj district. The project was launched in January 2009 in 49 villages for 1 year on pilot basis. After the successful completion of the pilot project, CMDRR

Phase-I Project started from March, 2010 and continued to February, 2013 for 3 year in a number of 84 villages including 49 numbers of existing villages. At present, the program is ongoing in 112 villages increasing from 84.

This is a very common and familiar phenomenon to organize Workshop on CMDRR at union and upazila level for selecting new villages. With the onset of statehood, 112 villages are selected through 16 union level CMDRR Workshops and 4 CMDRR Workshop at 4 upazilas. The delegates from different GO and NGO share their experience in the workshop. All participants express their opinion that they know very well about CMDRR Project implemented by VARD and target community are benefited resulting in the project implementation. Apart from this, they also articulate their opinion to provide hardware support beside software support to improve their living standard.



Provide orientation to Volunteers, GMC members, different community groups, UP standing Committee on pre, during and post disaster response and early warning system.

In June, 2013 ACCESS-CAFOD project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission was organized day long training to volunteers, GMC members and UP standing committee members. Number of 108 Volunteers, GMC and UP standing committee members attended the training.

Major content of the training were: Hazard vulnerability capacity, what is disaster, causes and types of disaster, damages and losses of hazards, standing order on disaster, introduction UP, district and national level disaster management committee, roles and responsibilities of GMC and CRCMC, early warning system, rescue, evacuation, climate

change, disaster & gender and local resource mobilizations and use for disaster preparedness etc. After receiving the training the participant are now capacitated to manage the disaster situation in appropriately.



Organize meetings with UDMCs and Upazilla disaster management Committee

In order to enhance the sensitization among the Union and Upazilla Disaster Management Committees (UDMC) to disaster related event ACCESS-CAFOD project organized program about DRR events. Natural disaster is a common phenomenon in Barguna area. People's coping mechanism and adaptability to face the climate change impact on environment strengthened. The people would be sensitized about disaster and climate change impact. ACCESS-CAFOD project facilitated the UDMC meeting at Union and Upazilla level. Through participating the meetings strengthened their knowledge regarding disaster awareness and mitigation and are implementing the DRR related activities more effectively. Hazards, vulnerability and capacity assessment, risks, contingency plan, roles and responsibilities of the management committee, damages and losses of disaster, type of disasters, standing orders, disaster preparedness, vulnerabilities and capacity assessment (VCA), contingency plan, rescue,

evacuation etc. were discussed at the meeting. As a result increased the sensitization and awareness of disaster management committee members, strengthened the linkage and network among different union disaster management committee & enhanced the knowledge of committee members that what to do before, during and after disasters situation.



Organize cultural program and mock session on disaster preparedness and response

ACCESS-CAFOD project organized events of simulation/mock drills in different M/CRC and schools in the Barguna area. A practice of activities organized in normal which people have to perform during a specific situation. The project decided the situations for simulations considering the emergency context of coastal area to disseminate early warning for cyclone, process of evaluation, techniques of life saving during emergency, search and rescue and relief response during emergency etc. The plan of action for the mock drill exercise was decided after holding several meetings among Dhaka Ahsania Mission staffs, GMC members, volunteer and school teacher/students. ACCESS-CAFOD project organized the simulation/mock drills considering the emergency context are for social gathering awareness raising and to gain experience on emergency situations.

At first it was selected a hazard in considering the local context. After selecting the subject of the mock drills script preparing, selection of the people who will demonstrate the simulation, rehearsal on the simulation, site selection for the simulation, forming a simulation implementation committee within the local community and distribution of task, inviting the local community to observe the simulation, creating a artificial emergency situation and show the situation. Normally after developing the capacity of the community and volunteer and forming a team involving local community people under the supervision of DRR officer, Simulation conducted at the prescheduled place. The simulations have organized during the usual idle session of year of the people of the pre-selected area.



Established Ganokendra based Community Disaster Risk Reduction (CDRR) fund for emergency management of disaster risk reduction at community level.

In August'2013 of this year 92 Ganokendra based community disaster risk reduction fund raised to face and response the emergency situation of the community people of Barguna district. The Ganokendra management committee and the volunteers conducted different discussion and meetings with the community people to make understand the people regarding the CDRR fund and its importance as well. The community people showed their interest of this fund and agree to work together to raise the fund. As it will help the community people in emergency situation, the community people has given cash money, rice, bamboo etc. as

per their capacity. In conditions of the community people created a fund development which is still mobilizing. A good amount of money has been mobilized by selling the material/goods, which got from the community during this period based on the discussion of community members about the importance and usage of the fund. At the same time, the money is being putted to the Ganokendras bank account and treasure maintains the accounts. This fund should be used to meet the emergency need during hazards and disaster situation.



A Change Story



Ranjeeta wins her disability

Ranjeeta (32) from village of Pipulbunia of Rampal union of Bagerhat district is the second child of Birandranath and Juthika Dhali. Ranjeeta suffered from typhoid when she was only eight years old and a student of class three. Her parents did their best for her treatment. But unfortunately the deadly disease paralyzed her right leg and gradually became a person with disabilities (PWD). For this her family treated her as a burden on them and pitied her. Ranjeeta realized the crude reality that depending on others mercies for livelihood ultimately push her in begging at one stage of life. She managed to convince her family to continue with her study and finally managed to get BCom degree. She had a mind that she can manage a suitable job after completion of graduation degree. But it was not happened as most of the employees are not willing to go for inclusive activities by providing job for disable person like Ranjeeta. Despite such social inconveniences, Ranjeeta changed her strategy to win disability. She opened a coaching center and got several students there. Her position in the family became important when she was able to provide financial support. While she was continuing with her coaching center she was introduced with a volunteer of Action on Disability and Development (ADD) International in 2010 and became familiar with ADD's activities. Inspired by the ADD intervention, she organized a group of disabled people. She named her group as Ashar Michil (Light for hope) with 24 PWDs. Now she is the treasurer of the group and meets weekly and promotes savings for the group. She also received training on PWDs awareness and advocacy to uphold the rights of PWDs, organize income-generating activities (IGA) and to mitigate disaster following the strategy of ADD International. She learned about lobbying for establishing their rights. She participated in the 7th National Convention of the PWDs, 2002, organized by the ADD International in Dhaka and gained vast experiences that she shared with her group. She took Taka 8000 as SME loan from the Improved Food and Livelihood Security (IFLS) Project of ADD International following the decision of her group to start with a grocery shop. Her father helped her to run the shop. At present a stock of goods in her shop is more than Taka 30,000. Social status and importance of Ranjeeta has been increased in many folds. She is very popular in her community as the didi (sister). People visit her to take advices. She believes that the training she obtained from the ADD International helped her gaining confidence to be an empowered person to face challenges natural disasters or any other adverse situation. She was dreaming that the PWDs should live with dignity and respect in the society. Now her dream comes into reality by winning her disabilities.

M Nurun Nabi, Project Manager, ADD International



Training on CMDRR approach & rescue for Student Brigade members & vegetable cultivation for FCDC members

One of the member organizations of CMDRR Forum, Bangladesh Friendship was organized training on CMDRR approach and rescue for the Student brigade member and training on vegetable cultivation for the member of friendship coastal development committee. Friendship Luxemburg was made the financial support for both training program. A number of 6 training on student brigade were organized under the CMDRR south project. 180 students both male and female from different student brigade have been participated in one daylong training program. For the moment, 475 members from 16 FCDC were received two days long training on vegetable cultivation. Both training program was focused on CMDRR approach.



Alarm rings for climate system

UN blames mankind for global warming, calls for curbing fossil-fuel burning

A UN panel recently said it was more certain than ever that humans were the cause of global warming and predicted temperatures would rise another 0.3 to 4.8 degrees Celsius (0.5-8.6 degrees Fahrenheit) this century. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) also projected sea levels would rise between 26 and 82 centimetres (10.4 and 32.8 inches) by 2100, and warned of a higher risk for heatwaves, floods and droughts.

Environmental activists and scientists said the first volume of the panel's long-awaited review, released in Stockholm, made it clearer than ever that Man's fossil-fuel burning must be urgently curbed to limit future damage to the climate system.

In a report summary, the Nobel-winning group said it was "extremely likely" — a term meaning it was 95-percent convinced — that humans caused more than half the warming observed over the past 60 years.

In its last report in 2007, the panel had rated its conviction at 90 percent.

UN climate chief Christiana Figueres said the report's release was "an alarm clock moment for the world".

"To steer humanity out of the high danger zone, governments must step up immediate climate action and craft an agreement in 2015 that helps to scale up" efforts to curb greenhouse gas emissions, she said.

And US Secretary of State John Kerry also urged strong action, labelling the report "yet another wakeup call."

The IPCC document is the first volume in a trilogy summarising the status of global warming and its impacts.

The panel has delivered four previous assessment reports in its 25-year history.

Each edition has pounded out an ever-louder drumbeat to warn that temperatures are rising and the risk to the climate system — in drought, floods, storms and rising seas — is accentuating.

The panel's projections for 2100 are based on computer models of trends in heat-trapping greenhouse gas emissions, especially from coal, oil and gas, which provide the backbone of energy supply today.

The most optimistic of four warming scenarios sees an average temperature rise of 1.0 C (1.8 F) by 2100 over 2000 levels, ranging from 0.3 to 1.7 C (0.5-3.1 F). This is the only scenario that can safely meet a UN target of 2 C (3.6 F) which also factors in warming from the start of the Industrial Revolution to 2000.

By comparison, the highest IPCC scenario has an average warming this century of 3.7 C (6.7 F), ranging from 2.6 C (4.7 F) to a 4.8 C (8.6 F) — a figure many experts consider catastrophic.

Heatwaves were "very likely" to occur more frequently and last longer, he said, with added risk of floods and droughts in a warmer world.

According to World Meteorological Organisation chief Michel Jarraud, the report underscored that "our activities today will have a profound effect on society, not just for us but for many generations to come".

The decade ending 2010 had already been the warmest on record, and was marked by extreme weather events.

"We ignore these scientific warnings at our own peril," said Andrew Steer, head of the World Resources Institute, a US-based thinktank.

In a video statement, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said the report was "essential" for governments thrashing out an ambitious global deal by 2015 on curbing greenhouse gas emissions.

Ban will host a summit in September 2014 to boost political commitment to containing warming to 2.0 C — the level at which experts say we can avoid some of the worst climate fallout.

"The heat is on," said the UN chief. "Now we must act."

Political interest in climate change dwindled after a near-disastrous UN summit in Copenhagen in 2009, and willingness for concessions has fallen back in developed countries still struggling from the 2008 financial crisis.

The work yesterday released comprises a 2,000-page report authored by 257 scientists, plus a 36-page Summary for Policymakers. Two more volumes will be released next year.

Source: AFP, Stockholm

Caritas-Bangladesh (CB)

2, Outer Circular Road, Shantibagh, Dhaka
 Tel: 880-2-8315405-9 Fax: 880-2-8314993
 E-Mail: ed@caritasbd.org; ddmd@caritasbd.org;
 ad@caritasbd.org; dd@caritasbd.org

**Concern Universal Bangladesh (CUB)**

House # 08 (4th Floor), Road # 28
 Block # K, Banani, Dhaka, Bangladesh
 Tel: 880-2-8855296, Fax: 02-9883267
 E-Mail: abdul.hamid@concern-universal.org

Action on Disability and Development (ADD)

House # 56, Road # 11, Block-C, Banani, Dhaka 1213
 Phone: 880-2-8832037, 9862554, 8859330
 Fax: 880-2-8831228
 E-Mail: add.bangladesh@add.org.bd
 Web site: www.add.org.bd

**Pidim Foundation**

29/1 (new) Senpara Parbata
 Mirpur-10, Dhaka 1216
 Tel: 880-02-8018144, 9011808, 9005874
 E-Mail: pdim@bangla.net
 Web: www.pdimfoundation

Voluntary Association for Rural Development (VARD)

House # 554 (3rd-5th floor), Road # 09
 Baitul Aman Housing Society, Adabor, P.O. Box
 No - 10059, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207
 Tel: 880-2-9133590, 9124410, Fax: 880-2-9125215
 E-Mail: varddkh@bdmail.net

**FRIENDSHIP**

Baridhara Central Plaza (3rd Floor)
 Block-K, 87, Sohrawardi Avenue
 Baridhara, Dhaka-1212
 Tel: 880-2-8814823-24, Fax: 880-2-8814851
 E-Mail: info@friendship-bd.org

Integrated Development Association of Bangladesh (INDAB)

Baitul Falah-New Building (3rd Floor),
 Alekanda Sarak, Barisal 8200
 Tel: 0431-64113, E-Mail: indab@bdcom.com

**Young Power in Social Action (YPSA)**

House # F10 (P), Road # 13, Block-B,
 Chandgaon R/A, Chittagong-4212
 Bangladesh
 Tel: 880-31-672857, 2570915, 01711825068
 Fax: 880-31-2570255
 E-Mail: info@ypsa.org, ypsa_arif@yahoo.com

People's Oriented Program Implementation (POPI)

5/11-A, Block-E, Lalmatia, Dhaka-1207
 Tel: 880-2-9121049, 9137769, 9122119
 Fax: 880-2-8113657, E-Mail: popi@bdmail.net

**FIGHT FOR HUNGER (FFH)**

P.O.: Osmania, P. S.: Sandwip
 District: Chittagong, Bangladesh
 Tel: 01716-147779
 E-Mail: rezaulffh@yahoo.com

**Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM)**

House-19, Road-12 (new)
 Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka 1209
 Tel: 880-2-8119521-22, 9123402, 9123420
 Fax: 880-2-8143706
 E-Mail: dambgd@ahsaniamission.org.bd

Palli Gono Unnayan Kendra (PGUK)

Padrishipur, Bakerganj, Barisal-8282
 Phone: +88 01715-153844
 E-mail: pguk04@yahoo.com
 Web: www.pguk-bd.org

**RDRS Bangladesh**

House No: 43, Road No: 10, Sector: 06
 Uttara Model Town, Dhaka
 Tel: 880-2-8954384-6, Fax: 880-2-8954391
 E-Mail: rdrs@bangla.net

Editorial Board

M Nurun Nabi, ADD
 Monjurul Huda, CEGIS (Guest)

Supported by:**Editor**

Khan Md. Muzahid Ibne Habib
 Coordinator, CMDRR Forum BD
 Dhaka Ahsania Mission

Contact: Khan Md. Muzahid Ibne Habib, Coordinator, CMDRR Forum Secretariate, Dhaka Ahsania Mission
 House-19, Road-12 (new), Dhanmondi-R/A, Dhaka-1209, Tel: 880-2-8119521-22, 9123420, Fax: 880-2-8143706
 E-Mail: info@cmdrrforum.org.bd, write2muzahid@yahoo.com

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