TRANSFORMING SURGE CAPACITY

Learnings from the corporate partnerships (Chennai floods) and community contingency plans for disaster preparedness (Ganjam, Odisha) in India

Regional private sector pilot: Corporate and community engagement learnings
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This surge private sector pilot project has been a good learning for ActionAid and its partners. I am sure other national and international agencies along with corporates which have been part of deliberations in Odisha, Chennai and New Delhi would have gained a lot from it. Understanding the working of private sector and its focus is crucial for us to help them in our disaster response and preparedness activities. In course of this project we had documented few case studies from Chennai where corporates supported us in the disaster response after Chennai floods in 2015. We also revisited women led preparedness plans in Ganjam, Odisha and tried to link it up with corporates in it.

Most of the corporates agreed that it is important to engage human resources from the beginning of the response for a greater understanding of the community and their needs and this can lead to future preparedness activities as well. Although most of the corporates are interested in infrastructure related preparedness, it is also possible to cater to other areas of preparedness if we can design the programmes appropriately as per corporate requirements. These programmes for corporate might be ‘development’ oriented as the schedule 7 of the Companies act 2013 (Section 135 of the Companies Act provides the threshold limit for applicability of the CSR to a Company) in India does not include disaster preparedness work however it can be done under different heads like ecological sustainability and so on. In fact in Maharashtra, SIMENS has supported us to enhance living conditions of marginalized communities through integrated development using sustainable & inclusive technology which is both scalable & replicable in rural India. In this we are working on strengthening water structures and bringing more and more area under irrigation and enhancing livelihood which can be termed as drought preparedness in the area which is facing chronic droughts. Similarly other corporates are coming forward for supporting the women led disaster preparedness plans which we piloted in Ganjam, Odisha.

We want to thank Plan International especially Lisa Joerke for supporting us for this project. We also would like to thank all colleagues of Chennai Regional Office especially Esther Mariaselvam, Sandeep Saxena and Dipali Sharma from CSR hub, Nirja Bhatnagar from Mumbai regional office and my colleagues from Bhubaneswar Regional Office especially Puspashree for successful implementation of this project. I also want to thank the partners in Ganjam especially Swosti and UAA (United Artists Association) for helping us in preparing the women led disaster preparedness plans. We would also like to thank Times Foundation for collaborating us in organizing the workshops in Chennai and New Delhi. I would also like to thank Priyaranjan Sahu, a veteran journalist in Odisha for editing the document.

We hope that the learnings from project will help us in designing the disaster response and preparedness project much better in future.

Debabrat Patra
Regional Manager, Bhubaneswar Regional Office, ActionAid
Introduction to the pilot

Asia is one of the most disaster-prone continents of the world which has strong and significant ecological impacts on its people. The past two decades have seen a significant increase in the frequency and intensity of disasters, particularly the ones induced by climate.

People living in poverty often suffer the most as they miss out on vital information like early warning mechanisms and lack the required skills to understand safety advice to take adequate precautions. Also, natural or human-made disasters can lead to different outcomes for demographically similar groups of people or communities. The poor and socio-economically marginalised communities, especially women and children, suffer more than others during a natural or man-made disaster.

Hence, there is an urgent need for a disaster preparedness plan covering the most vulnerable population of the community in the cyclone prone areas and also for involving different stakeholders in the process so that they find out the area where they can play a role in implementation of these plans leading to better disaster response. Moreover, it is essential to involve the private sector in this process so that they invest their human resource and fund in right place for right cause.

With this backdrop, the surge pilot project was implemented to enable the private sector and community to understand each other’s need through community contingency plans, identify areas where private sector can help in implementation of the plan and facilitate rollout of the plans in the cyclone prone belt of the Bay of Bengal.

We worked with the local partners to revisit the contingency plan and tried how we could get support for this plan from local governments and corporate entities. It is extremely important to get the support for the disaster preparedness plan along with support for the disaster response which is more forthcoming.

Objectives

- To generate and share evidence of best practices of corporate engagements in disaster response.
- To conduct action research in the context of cyclone, identifying challenges and areas of collaboration with private sector.
- To have dialogue and ensure corporate or private sector’s active involvement and support in preparation and rollout of contingency plans based on the needs of community.

Methodology

Collection of case studies with detailed interview schedule for different stakeholders (see Annexure 1 for the detailed interview schedule)

ActionAid developed questionnaire to document the best practices of corporate engagement in disaster response and to collect the feedback from private sector on the challenges they faced and their feedback for better collaboration in disaster risk reduction work.

The process initiated with an introduction call to SURGE network working in India, Bangladesh and Myanmar. The objective and proposed processes of the SURGE pilot project was shared with the members. The members also gave their feedback on the questionnaire that was shared with them before the call. The members of India, Bangladesh and Myanmar were also requested to send few best practices of corporate engagement based on the questionnaire.

We collected five case studies from Chennai as we had enlisted support from large number of corporates in the floods in 2015 in the city. In addition, we tried to engage with other platform such as CII and UNICEF for gathering our evidences. Although the case studies are from ActionAid, it holds good amount of lessons for other stakeholders and surge partners as well.

Detailed process documentation of the preparation and rollout of the community contingency plans (CCPs) with local partners, community leaders and corporates (see Annexure 3 for detailed process documentation of CCP)

One of the interventions under surge capacity project was to revisit the CCPs in 12 villages of Ganjam district of Odisha in India. These CCPs were originally developed in 2015 as part of the disaster risk reduction (DRR) intervention in the aftermath of Cyclone Phailin that had hit Ganjam coast in 2013. Women leaders of the community were capacitated to lead the CCP processes so as to reduce their vulnerability and face any future disaster with preparedness and resilience.

ActionAid had facilitated these CCPs along with the local NGO called United Artist Association- UAA and a women organisation called SWOSTI. These two organisations also actively involved in revisiting of CCP under SURGE capacity pilot.

Objectives of revisiting these CCPs were to have a fresh look into the community needs, reflect on the progress made against the previous plan and find out the areas and opportunities for collaboration with private sector apart from the government.

These plans were revisited with active participation of the women leaders, vulnerable groups such as Dalits and persons with disabilities (PWDs), members of the task forces formed during the first plan and panchayat raj Institution (Panchayat) or the local self-governance.

Private companies of the local area were briefed about the CCP and objective behind revisiting the CCPs. They were invited to participate in the revising process so that they could understand the need, find out possible areas of collaboration and plan for any future interventions. Though the companies agreed for collaboration in implementation of few activities of the plan that would emerge, they could not participate in the planning process. Hence, convincing them about few emerging plans was difficult.

Process documentation of CCPs: Please refer to Annexure 3

Findings

Context of Chennai

We have collected around five best practices of corporate engagement. Please see the Annexure 2 for the details of two such case studies.

Major findings:

- Engagement from the beginning helps - starting from Need Assessment and finalising the community and area: Corporate partnerships work best if they are involved from the beginning of the response programme starting from the need assessments. When the corporate personnel accompany the need assessment team, they understand which the most deserving area is and what the needs of the affected community are. This helps in designing the relief package at a later stage.

- Resources – both financial and human is crucial. Corporate staff engagement ensures an emotional connect with the projects, finalising the area, community and support: Tata group said: “Volunteers from various TATA group companies and ActionAid participated whole heartedly in the relief work. It was team work at its best, unity in diversity – volunteers from different parts of the country, with different backgrounds, working for different companies at different levels from VP to fresher, all united and working together for the same cause.

- Prior presence with local partners helps: Prior Presence with Local partners
Need to work for disaster preparedness

Engaging with women leaders and poor and marginalised: As with almost all the disasters, Chennai floods exposed long lasting problems of urban poor – unsafe shelters, insecurity, livelihood and lack of participation. So it is important to prioritise the needs of these communities and give leadership to women. In all our interventions, the whole process was led by the women from the communities and women were prioritised to get the benefits. In our project with CIPLA in Cuddalore and Chennai, we worked women with disabilities, which was a model for other organisations working in the area.

Need and relevance of corporate support: As mentioned by the community, the corporate support immensely helped them and they started cooking after a month and the solar lights also were extremely useful. This shows the need and relevance of the corporate support even if the government is there for the immediate response. In areas, which are untouched by government agencies or even other organisations, this becomes all the more important, like the work with women with disabilities or the Dalits in Cuddalore.

Disaster should be seen as an opportunity to address compounding socio-economic problems of marginalised communities like Dalit.

Need to work for disaster preparedness along with response: There is a need to work for disaster preparedness in addition to the tie-ups made for disaster response. This is the next step which we should aspire for. Chennai is the ninth most disaster prone urban city in the world, according to a report by Swiss Re ‘Mind the Risk’, which prepared a global ranking of the cities under threat from natural disasters. Two other cities – Kolkata and Mumbai – rank higher than Chennai. As these metropolises are also major business centres, we should start disaster risk reduction through a partnership with the government and corporates to protect the communities and businesses.

Importance on transparency and accountability: In disaster response, there is always a possibility of corruption and lack of accountability. So it is extremely important to be totally transparent in our operations to ensure the trust of the corporates and the communities on us. All the corporates were of the view that ActionAid operations maintained transparency with the community.

Government partnership crucial for sustainability: Some of the corporates opined that it is important to tie up with local government for different programmes like MGNREGA and other livelihood schemes for compensation, permanent shelter and sustainable livelihood.

Traditional and locally suitable technology succeeds in disaster rehabilitation. Use of mud blocks for shelters in Cuddalore and Chennai with support from Infosys was highly appreciated by the community and was also adopted locally by others in the community.

Community should be treated as co-partners in disaster response project if we want the implementation to be effective and sustainable.

Processes & Findings of revisiting of CCPs

Processes

The women leaders of the community discussed with the task forces and PRI members about revisiting of CCPs, and discussed about its need. They also discussed about contacting the key stakeholders such as the government and private sectors to join the process. They contacted the private companies situated in local area. The team fixed two days for conducting the revisit for each village. The dates were finalised in consultation with PRIs and vulnerable groups of the village.

During the revisit, all the task force members, family members of vulnerable groups and PRI members were present. Women leaders took the lead in doing all the arrangements and contacting the key stakeholders. The dates were communicated to key stakeholders.

The task forces read out the old plan. Mapping of progress against each plan was documented and discussed, and the gaps were identified. The PRI members, especially the ward member responsible for the concerned hamlets/ villages, were present. Task force members shared about their experiences while implementing the plans. Discussion was held on the role the task forces played. Emerging needs were identified and discussed. Areas of collaboration/approaching the key stakeholders were identified and responsibility for contacting them was entrusted. Further, the community discussed about presenting the new plan to the PRI. Accordingly, the date was finalised.

The new plan was presented to the Sarpanchs, heads of the PRI, and ward members. They were requested to call Gram Sabha for the approval of the plans that would lead to acceptance of the plans by the district administration.

The Sarpanchs gave their commitments for implementation of some plans by using PRI resources.

Selected task force members and women leaders visited the private company and shared the plan. They requested the companies to support few activities channed out in the plan.

Future action plan

Gram sabha will be called to approve the plans. These plans will be compiled at panchayat level and submitted to block and district administration so that they can include them in their DRR plan.

The plans will be shared with key stakeholders such as the district administration, civil society organisations (CSOs) and private sectors. A district level workshop will be organised for sharing of the plans with key stakeholders. The district administration will be influenced to accept and implement them. The private sectors will be convinced to support implementation of a few plans. The CSOs will be invited to collaborate wherever possible.

Major findings of revisiting CCPs

In the earlier plan, a list of families having thatched house had been made. The women leaders had advocated with PRI and emergency unit of the district administration for linking the vulnerable families with the housing schemes. Now, there is a change in the house types of the vulnerable groups of the village. It was found that 80% families from the list had been linked to the housing scheme and concrete houses constructed for them. Single women within the vulnerable groups have been given the priority while linking to housing schemes.
In Biripur village, the need for construction of cyclone shelter was identified during the initial plan. The task force members, women leaders and PRI members had a discussion with the district administration and as a result the cyclone shelter been constructed. The Dalit community had demanded construction of the shelter near their hamlet as that was the worst affected area during the flood and cyclone.

Vulnerable groups have been linked to social security schemes. Single women within the community have been given priority for linking to social security schemes.

Confidence of task force members has increased due to their success in implementation of few plans by having dialogue with government. Revisiting of CCP gave the scope to the task forces of the villages to reflect on the roles they performed since their formation. They looked into the list of works they were supposed to do as part of preparedness. Task forces were restructured based on the views of the members and women leaders.

Challenges
- It was difficult for the women leaders and task force members to approach big corporates for collaboration for technical and deployment support. Also there was lack of information among the community about corporates. ActionAid informed the women leaders and community about the private sectors engagement, helped them to map the private sectors exist locally and facilitated their meeting with the management of these private sectors. But due to paucity of time linking the community with large corporate could not be possible.
- The private companies situated in local areas do not have dedicated corporate social responsibility (CSR) teams for which they were not interested in deployment of their personnel in the community processes. They also showed no interest on larger collaborations such as providing technical support or for construction of big infrastructure such as cyclone shelter. However, negotiation has been made for engagement of corporate in terms of financial support for capacity building of few task forces.
- It was felt that development of CCP is not complete without capacity building of task forces and women leaders that would help them understanding their role and responsibilities. This project organised training of two task forces such as Village Disaster Management Committee-VDMC and Protection of women and girls right committee.
Learnings and Recommendations

Major Learnings from revisiting 10 CCPs in Ganjam:

- It is important to prioritise the needs of vulnerable communities including women while doing a DRR planning. Moreover it is essential to facilitate women leadership to lead the planning process so that the issues of women and girls can be mapped and action plans would emerge to address these issues during all phase of disaster starting from disaster preparedness to response. All these will reduce the impact any future disaster on women and vulnerable groups. With these understanding women leaders including the Elected Women Representatives in PRI were enabled to lead the revisiting of CCP in all the villages.
- It was felt that disaster should be seen as an opportunity to address compounding socio-economic problems of marginalised communities like Dalit. The revisiting of CCP provided the space to understand the social dynamics that increases the vulnerability of certain groups to disaster. At the same time this platform created the scope to discuss the vulnerabilities in detail and find out possible interventions that would reduce the vulnerabilities of these groups including women and girls.
- It was found that approval of CCP in local governance/PRI (gram sabha) and linking the CCP with district administration has yielded result. The last CCP was approved in Gram Sabha and submitted to the block and district administration. Based on the plan, the administration has provided housing support to single women, one cyclone shelter has been constructed near the Dalit hamlet of Biripur village and vulnerable families have been linked to different social security schemes. Based on this learning, the new CCF have been submitted to the PRI and district administration.
- Revisiting of CCP gave an opportunity to understand the emerging issues related to WASH and how to address it so that better preparedness can be ensured. In Badapali village, drinking water scarcity emerged this year but till the revisiting of CCPs not much attention was given. The community discussed about this when the role of WASH task force of the village was examined. Once it was identified the task force members contacted the PRI and block administration. Based on their demand the block administration has initiated the work for supplying drinking water to the village through pipelines from a government water tank.

Recommendations

- Enlist corporate support from the beginning, not only for financial resources but also human resource so that they are convinced about the area and the need of the community.
- Mobilise corporate and CSO support in addressing disaster because it is very crucial for the community to get their lives on the track especially in case poor, unreached and marginalised. This support is very effective and relevant.
- Involve the local partners as it is essential to manage the power structure and conflicts and to promote the leadership of women and other marginalised groups in the area prior to the disaster.
- Need to work for disaster Preparedness and resilience building along with response: There is a need to work for disaster preparedness in addition to the tie ups made for disaster response. This is the next step which we should aspire for.
- We should partner with government for sustainability: Some of the corporates opined that it is important to tie up with local government for different programmes like compensation, permanent shelter, livelihood (MGNREGA and other livelihood programmes). For sustainability of the programmes, we need to tie up with PRI and government programmes like MGNREGA, permanent housing programmes and so on.
- We must ensure Transparency and Accountability: In a disaster response there is always a possibility of corruption and lack of accountability, so it is extremely important to be totally transparent in our operations so that faith of the corporates and the communities is retained. To keep the trust of the corporates and community we need to be totally transparent and accountable about the funds and goods received from the donors. For this we need to promote measures such as transparency boards, social audits and so on.
- Give importance to Indigenous knowledge and locally suitable technology. Use of mud blocks for Shelters in Cuddalore, Chennai with support from Infosys was highly appreciated by the community and was also adopted locally by others in the community. Local/Traditional technology is more sustainable in disaster rehabilitation project.
- Let us treat community as co-partners and not beneficiaries – community participation is crucial for faster and effective implementation.
- Since Bangladesh and Myanmar have common corporates (like TATA, SIMENS etc.) and similar disasters, efforts can be made for partnerships keeping the recommendations and our learnings in mind.
- We must identify best fit sectors of corporate and their social responsibility preferences, to understand how they can best support our right holders.
Case studies

Case study 1
For all the corporate partnerships, ActionAid adopted various means for connecting to corporates like:

- Directly by Regional Office at Chennai
- Through Institutional Partnership Development unit
- Through Fund Raising unit
- Referral through other corporates
- Direct approach of corporate knowing Action aid’s work post flood

All agreements are signed by the Executive Director of ActionAid and the reporting requirements are fulfilled by the regional office and fund raising.

Some highlights of the case studies presented are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Focus Community</th>
<th>Focus Areas</th>
<th>Unique benefit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SIMENS</td>
<td>Urban women in Slums, Chennai, Urban Slums</td>
<td>Alternative Livelihood breaking stereotypes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TATA</td>
<td>Urban Poor in Slums, Chennai, Urban Slums</td>
<td>Quick and timely support for providing households items, volunteers from TATA helped to expand the reach</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Case study 1
Surge best practices - TATA

The context of Tamil Nadu floods 2015
People of Tamil Nadu, especially Chennai, were deluged by unprecedented floods triggered by heavy rainfall during the northwest monsoon in the months of November and December 2015. The floods completely devastated their normal lives and particularly people staying in low lying regions, along the sides of lakes and rivers were the worst victims.

The Coovum riverside has been populated for years by landless Dalits, homeless people, migrants and transgender, who are in perpetual fear of being evicted by the administration. The floods exposed the long lasting problems of the urban poor community – unsafe shelters, unhygienic environment, abuse, insecurity and lack of livelihood. However, during the floods, the community rose to the occasion and people helped each other in rescue operations, saving a lot of people from drowning. They organised food and accommodation for the victims.

The community is steeped in utter poverty, struggling hard to manage children’s schooling and nutrition expenses. At least 50% of boys and girls are school dropouts, as parents are not in a position to bear the expenses of higher studies in private schools. Many of these children have to work as child labourers to contribute to the meagre family income. The transgender community is largely engaged into sex work and begging as they do not have any alternative livelihood.

ActionAid is working in these communities for many years supporting them against forced eviction and raising awareness on government entitlements of women and children.

The disaster
During the first phase of floods, many places of Tamil Nadu received heavy rains for three days starting from the night November 14. The second phase of floods starting after continuous heavy pouring for five days from November 30 marooned Chennai.

Floods forced many people to evacuate on their own. More than 400,000 people, particularly people along the banks of the Coovum were displaced. Over 4,000 people were rescued by boats.

The communities in Appasamy Street, Harrington Street, Makkis Garden, RANGOON Street, Brewery Street, RK Nagar, Sivan Koil Street, East and West Namachivayapuram and a tribal hamlet named Sadayankuppam from Thiruvallur district were severely affected by the floods. All the houses, shops, buildings across the river were completely washed out and people lived on streets, schools, community halls, churches and libraries. Women, disabled persons, children and old people suffered the most as they could not find any safer place to sleep or defecate. People owning small businesses, street vendors and hawkers lost out financially and depended on the food, clothes and other materials provided by NGOs and philanthropists. Companies, factories, schools, colleges were closed for over a month. It was a huge challenge to restore the damages of the urban slum people engaged in daily wages.

ActionAid conducted an assessment in flood affected slums to address the issue and assist the people, especially women, children and old persons.

Intervention process
We approached the community with the support of ActionAid’s local partners NAWO, Udavi, Arunodhaya, and SFRAWD. The local partners had been working with local leaders, community people, and women in building their capacities since the tsunami. ActionAid had provided trainings in awareness camps and been meeting with community members regularly on the issues of forced eviction. Therefore it has a good knowledge on community resources, problems and has built a relationship of trust with them.

Door to door assessment was conducted at the initial stages assessing damages and social-economic status of the affected people. ActionAid team was able to mobilise volunteers from different corporates like Jet Airways, Siemens, and college interns, students and many colleagues from other regional ActionAid offices. We had the support of women community leaders who got benefited by our work earlier. They took us to the affected/ isolated and inaccessible areas. We took the risk of visiting all the affected areas personally though the narrow paths were unsafe, slippery, and unhygienic.

The assessment outcomes revealed that the most affected were the marginalised communities...
from SC, ST, OBC segment of the society and transgender. These communities mostly consist of daily wage workers, fishermen, construction workers, domestic help, manufacturing units, cobblers and farmers. The floors and ceilings of most of the houses were affected with seepage which led to bad odour, water accumulation on ground as the houses were constructed at low cost and with low quality materials where mosquitoes and other insects bred. Household items like stove, kitchen utensils and grocery were all washed away.

A series of consultations were organised with community people, leaders, youth groups, and women to assure their participation and leadership in implementation of recovery support. The other significant feature of community process was to empower and build women’s groups in the community. A total of 31 women spread in six different areas participated actively in community committees, nominated by the community people themselves. The above steps were taken in line with ActionAid policy and in the promotion of women’s leadership.

**Activities carried out**

As immediate response to emergency, relief materials were distributed in January 2016. More than three-fourth of the people had lost all their household materials like clothes, utensils, vessels, electric appliances, chairs, certificates and shelters. The kits were distributed to affected communities in Harrington Road (urban slum community, Rangoon Street, Makkis Garden, Brewery Street, Appasamy Street), Sadayankuppam (Irular community), R.K Nagar (Vyasarpadi, Korukpet, Aminjikarai), women with disabilities in the districts of Chennai, Kancheepuram, Cuddalore and Thiruvallur. Later relief kit was also distributed to the homeless people from Chennai. The kit included solar lamp, water purifier, tarpaulins, mosquito nets, blankets, mats, vessels, cooking items like pressure cooker, stove, buckets, toiletries, sanitary items for girls, battery, towel, tooth paste, soap box, bathing soap, washing soap, towel, mug, door mat, detergent powder, Phenol, Dettol and scrub.

**The key implementers and collaborators**

The key implementers were ActionAid and TATA with the collaboration of NAWO, Udhavi, Arunodhya, SFRAWD, local leaders, women collective leaders, Jet Airways volunteers, interns and students.

**The support**

Each relief kit was distributed with the worth of Rs.13,000 goods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Areas</th>
<th>Distribution done</th>
<th>No.of final beneficiary</th>
<th>Value of kits in Rs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sadayan Kuppam</td>
<td>11.1.16</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>520000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewery Salai</td>
<td>11.1.16</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>2028000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appasamy Street</td>
<td>15.1.16</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>2262000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrington Road 2nd Avenue</td>
<td>15.1.16</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>1170000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rangoon Street</td>
<td>15.1.16</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>3042000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makkis Garden</td>
<td>15.1.16</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>1924000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kali Amman Koil Street</td>
<td>15.1.16</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>2262000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1016</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,32,08,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Outputs and outcomes**

The distribution of immediate relief kit helped the people addressing needs of daily routine out of their shelters and to slowly returning to their normal life. As most of the beneficiaries were single women and bread winner of the family, they found it difficult to pick up the thread of their lives again.

All the households items had been completely washed out. The government and philanthropist support did not last more than two weeks. All were living in nearby community halls and depended on local people and neighbours. So our intervention helped them at this critical time to start their life. Our kit provided all the basic things needed for their survival. Particularly women and young girls, who felt unsafe living in public places without any support, found the kit very useful in returning to their houses and have their own cooked food with our provisions and utensils.

Rekha, a committee leader from Rangoon Street, says: “Children, women, old people and men fell sick very often in the absence of proper healthcare facilities in the aftermath of floods and as they had to drink contaminated water. Water purifier helped the families to avoid drinking contaminated water.”

The output was evident in the community as grateful beneficiaries unanimously said that it helped them in starting a new life after they had lost all hopes following the disaster. The initial assessment we carried helped in finding the deserving beneficiaries and appropriate interventions.

The committee members formed by ActionAid in all the intervention areas helped in facilitating the whole intervention process and they are continuing to lead their communities on local issues and the same could be adopted with other communities since it was one of the best practices witnessed in the communities.
Section B

Feedbacks from community (FGD)

- The respondents agreed that the project was highly relevant. It helped them in returning to their homes and carry out their day to day activities.
- The respondents unanimously agreed the project was sustainable since the relief kits provided them hope to start their daily life. The solar light provided are still utilised by all the families and water purifier has ensure safe and hygienic water for drinking. All the materials in the relief kit were useful and helped them in surviving with dignity. The elderly women replied that those products are the only things used by them even after a year.
- Many were jobless and find any source to regain their losses. With banks of the Coovum and they did not identify were living below poverty on the one hand to the whole community. It saved them from insects and reptiles slipping into their houses. The immediate relief kits were the only things found in many beneficiaries house when we went for the follow up. One of the beneficiary, Ms. Sundari, said, “People living along Coovum riverside started cooking in their houses after one and a half months of the floods with the stove and utensils provided by TATA.”
- All the respondents said the project was highly efficient. They also said committee members worked all the day since immediate relief was the intervention needed for the most affected communities. They identified all the beneficiaries by door to door visit and completed the whole process in January. The resources were handful and the support of ActionAid helped in completing the entire process efficiently.
- The respondents unanimously said that the project was highly relevant. The beneficiaries identified were living below poverty on the banks of the Coovum and they did not find any source to regain their losses. With the shelters left with washed out roofs and empty walls, they were helpless and depended on their neighbours and relatives for their survival. Many were jobless and the small businesses that provided them meagre income were also ruined. During such a time of crisis, distribution of relief kits by ActionAid with TATA’s support was highly relevant. It helped them in returning to their homes and carry out their day to day activities.
- Women were the only members involved in the entire intervention process. The first and foremost step was forming the committee with women from their communities as member. They led the communities in assessing the families door to door and selecting the deserving beneficiaries in the categories of Dalit women, single women, abandoned women, elderly women, transgenders and financially poorer women.
- Based on their identification, relief material was distributed by themselves with the support of ActionAid and TATA in each community. The project was also monitored by our committee members and reported in weekly meetings. To ensure transparency, committee leaders put up a list of names on public domain with the details of beneficiaries and items provided to them.
- Yes, the women led the entire process and took the complete responsibility and the community rendered its fullest support. They were the final decision makers and intervention and people said they were the immediate and only respondents to all the affected people in the community.
- Yes, people said this was a suitable intervention for the people affected in disasters and belonged to the most excluded part of society. The same kind of intervention could be followed in other needed places.
- This is the best intervention since it addressed the need of exact situation. The immediate relief package provided was enough to restart their lives after undergoing harrowing experience and penury.

Section C

(Feedbacks from corporates (Interview schedule)

Challenges faced by corporate during their engagement in disaster response:

- Deciding about particular intervention

Getting the right/adequate information was a challenge initially. In any disaster, TATA Group always strives to reach out to the most affected and poorest. Getting the correct information helps in understanding the needs of the affected population and in planning the relief activities/interventions accordingly. Another consideration was to reach out to those who have received no aid or minimal aid. Through our partners, we were able to gather enough information and reach out to those communities who needed aid. Initially we provided emergency aid in the form of food packets, hygiene kits, drinking water and solar lamps and also conducted medical camps. Later, we distributed TATA Family Relief Kits which consisted of all the essential materials required by a family. Since most of the students lost their books we also distributed school kits along with the family kits. A section of people who were the most affected but received no aid were the homeless and we distributed a separate tailor-made kit to provide relief to them.

- Partnership with CSO

We partnered with ActionAid for the emergency kit distribution, conducting medical camps and for the distribution of family relief kits, school kits and the kits for the homeless. We followed the process wherein an initial survey was carried out to shortlist slums/villages. Then a family level survey was carried out, list of beneficiaries prepared and validation of the list carried out. After the finalisation of the list was done, it was displayed at a prominent place, corrections were made to the list if required, coupons were distributed and then on a designated date and time, the kits were distributed to the beneficiaries. ActionAid and its partners had a good connect with the community and helped us in each of the above stages. Meticulous planning and flawless execution from their side made the intervention a grand success. It was a mutually beneficial partnership and the success can be attributed to the fact that the ideology of both TATA Group and ActionAid matched in terms of reaching out to the poorest and most deserving. And both believed in the principle of “Building Back Better.”
Deputing human resource for the disaster response work

Volunteers from various TATA group companies and ActionAid participated wholeheartedly in the relief work. It was team work at its best, unity in diversity – volunteers from different parts of the country, with different back grounds, working for different companies at different levels from VPs to fresher, all united and working together for the same cause.

- Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring at each stage was done by both the partners as per laid down procedures. Reports as required were submitted to the management. Evaluation was carried out as per the process and the findings, conclusions and recommendations were disseminated through a presentation and discussion with stakeholders and presentation of the final report.

Comments on the intervention:

- Was the project effective? Did it address the problem for which it was intended? Yes. The project was effective as we found successful in reaching the most affected and aiding them.

- Was the project efficient? Was it completed in time with the allotted resources? Yes. The project was efficient as we could support a large number of beneficiaries with limited resources within the limited time and respond quickly with the support of ActionAid’s regional office.

- Was the project relevant? Did it address most important problems of the affected area? Yes. Based on the suggestions received from the communities the whole intervention process was set up. The material in the kit was also provided as recommended by the communities.

- Was the project sustainable? Will it last beyond the project period without any further resources? Yes. This project will help to recover from the losses and help them till they find some guaranteed income.

- Did the community take a lead in this? Was there any women leadership in the intervention? Yes. The whole process was led by the women from the communities and women were prioritised to get the benefits.

- Can the project be adapted in other areas and situations? Yes. It could be adopted.

- Is there any scope of improvement in this project? Please elaborate. Definitely. The areas of improvement have been identified and will be taken care of in future interventions.

- Did the project ensure transparency in its implementation? Were all stakeholder aware about their due from the project? Yes. The details were worked out in the community for their visibility.

Case study of Kanchana

“On the evening of November 15, the unprecedented rainfall hit the banks of Appasamy Street. The houses on the banks were submerged in flood waters and people left their houses and moved to higher places nearby. We returned to our houses after 10 days. But the situation became worse when there was continuous downpour in the first week of December. The reservoirs were left opened for the free flow of water as it reached maximum storage capacity. As our hamlets again flooded, all left their houses and moved to safer places. Women and children were the worst victims of flood as they could not find a safer place for their ‘personal needs’. This was our situation for more than half a month until the flood water started receding. We lost all our belongings like clothes, utensils, provisions, children books, certificates and uniforms. Some local NGOs and other voluntary organisations provided food, clothes, toothpaste, soaps and other daily need items.

“After a week, people from ActionAid visited our community and had a meeting with us. They formed a community committee with women as members and asked us to visit door to door and identify the beneficiaries. They guided us in all aspects which helped us to start the intervention process. It was found all the families had completely lost their goods in their houses and depended on others for a square meal. So, we recommended to provide the people with a relief kit, which would help them to address to their basic needs. Based on our recommendations, a relief kit was provided to all the beneficiaries identified with the support of TATA. They were the first interviners to support our entire community, particularly single women and families led by women. The solar light provided by TATA brought brightness to our whole community after a couple of months. Each shelter in this slum has the solar light provided by them. All the beneficiaries re-started to cook at their homes with the stove provided by TATA. The relief materials have been supporting us till this date and we are very thankful to them for help us get back to normal life.”

Case study

Surge best practices – SIEMENS

The context of Tamil Nadu floods 2015

The devastating rainfall in the two months of November and December in 2015 threw the normal life of the people in Tamil Nadu, and more significantly in Chennai, completely out of gear. People, particularly those staying in low lying regions, along the sides of lakes and rivers, were badly affected. In Chennai, people settled along the sides of the Coovum river suffered the most from the fury of the flood.

The flood exposed long lasting problems of the urban poor community – unsafe shelters, abuse, insecurity, livelihood and lack of participation. However, during the floods common people and community members rose to the occasion to rescue each other from drowning in flowing water and to help each other with food and shelter.
For years, the Coovum riverside has been home to migrant and homeless people, always dogged by the risk of eviction. ActionAid has been working with these communities for many years against forced eviction and for the entitlements of women and children.

The disaster
The floods in Chennai were officially declared as disaster on the evening of December 2. The floods forced many people to evacuate on their own and displaced more than 40,000 people, particularly people along the banks of the Coovum. Over 400 people were rescued by boats. All the houses, shops, buildings across the river were completely washed out and people took shelter in streets, schools, community halls, churches and libraries. Women, children and old people suffered the most as they could not find safe places to sleep or defecate.

Companies, factories, schools, colleges were shut down for not less than a month. People owning petty business, street vendors and hawkers suffered financially and were entirely dependent on the food, clothes and other materials provided by NGOs, philanthropists and other charities. People in urban slums were primarily engaged as daily labourer, and restoring their losses, damages and jobs was a major challenge to them.

To address those issues and assist them, especially women, children and elderly people, in the community, ActionAid conducted an assessment in the flood affected slums.

Assessment and intervention process
To identify losses and rehabilitation needs for the most marginalised people, ActionAid conducted needs assessments in the regions across the riverside of Coovum, namely Appasamy Street – Chetpet, Makkis Garden and Rangoon Street from Thousand Lights area and Namachivayapuram from Nungambakkam. The entire community was marooned in the floods and had to take shelter in nearby community halls, schools, churches and other structures. There was severe damage to shelters, household items and equipment were lost and livelihood activities came to a standstill.

During assessment, sufferings of affected people were evident. They were still living in unsafe shelters, struggling to revive their loss and damaged petty businesses. Some were in search for daily wage to earn their livelihood. Along with ActionAid team, Siemens were engaged in relief distribution and need assessment. Staff from Siemens visited the affected areas and along with AA actively distributed the relief kits, engaged in talking with affected people and in assessment as well cleaned debris of several houses where people could not reach to enter at all.

The ActionAid team met and interviewed community members identified by local NGOs as the most distressed and needy. Through interviews, the teams could 1. Identify the most marginalised and needy, 2. Take cognizance of their socio-economic status, and 3. Identify type and level of interventions required.

Some of the main criteria considered in selection of beneficiaries are, a) socio-economic status and level of incomes, b) family condition; single women, old women, c) severity of damages.

By and large, the community, especially women, were living in very poor conditions in partially and/or completely damaged shelters. Incomes were generated with lots of hardship by them or other family members, but they were not enough to invest in repair or reconstruction of the shelters. Women managed their daily chores with very few household items and many of livelihoods were damaged to the point that people were finding it difficult to restart their petty businesses again. Among marginalised groups were trans-women who lived in very poor conditions, and flood had made their lives more difficult.

A series of consultations were organised with community people, leaders, youth groups and women to assure their participation and leadership in implementation of recovery support. The other significant feature of the process was to empower and build women’s groups in the community. A total of 31 women spread in six different areas participated actively in community committees nominated by the community people themselves. The above steps were taken in line with ActionAid’s policy and in the promotion of women’s leadership.

The committee members gathered daily to discuss about activity implementation – from beneficiary selection and procurement of materials, to completion of shelter and distribution of livelihood supportive materials. The primary objective of selecting the committee members was to form solidarity and empower them. They delegated the work among themselves and held their responsibility in getting the work done. The series of meetings and orientations organised by ActionAid and partners also supported them and empowered them abundantly.

Based on the assessment, 215 temporary shelters were constructed against the proposed 176 houses. The committee members leading the process were asked to identify the beneficiaries who lost their businesses and livelihoods at the times of the floods.

Committee members from each location identified the victims to seek our livelihood support. Based on this identification, 339 beneficiaries were supported to restore their livelihood. An engineer was appointed to provide a technical support for the committee members in construction of shelters.

The livelihood support helped the beneficiaries in the communities to resume their businesses and survive independently with their livelihood supportive materials. The primary objective of selecting the committee members was to form solidarity and empower them. They delegated the work among themselves and held their responsibility in getting the work done. The series of meetings and orientations organised by ActionAid and partners also supported them and empowered them abundantly.

The appropriate planning and execution by our committee members with the support of their communities helped in achieving the outcomes of the said project. Besides addressing the issues and rendering the support, it has empowered the women in the communities, which proved that this project is beyond relief and rehabilitation process. The women from committees have started to raise their voice and train their communities to address the local issues. This can be counted among the best practices followed during the relief and rehabilitation process implemented with the support of corporates.
Feedbacks from community (FGD)

- The respondents agreed that the project was very effective. It successfully addressed the problem for which it was intended. The loss and damage of the shelters was the major problem caused by floods. The people who lost their shelters completely were provided with temporary shelters and for damaged houses, repairing support was rendered. This ensured their right to house with safety and dignity for their survival. In addition, we have restored the livelihood source of beneficiaries, whose petty businesses were completely destroyed in the floods.

  Beneficiaries started to earn income through ActionAid livelihood interventions and they have developed their businesses further. More specifically, beneficiaries from trans-women community who underwent beautician trainings have now become makeup artists.

  Ms. Jhansi, a beneficiary of livelihood support, says: “The livelihood interventions were timely, when we needed it most and a big help to me. Now I am selling conch products worth Rs.500 per day, earning a profit of around Rs.300.”

- The respondents unanimously replied the project was highly efficient. With limited allocated budget, we have reached maximum beneficiaries to restore their shelters and livelihoods.

  Within the allocated budget, we have actually supported 215 beneficiaries in reconstructing/repairing their houses against the proposed numbers of 176 shelters. Assessments reported that many women had suffered livelihood losses in their petty businesses like selling saree and flower vending. To reach the maximum beneficiaries, it was decided to provide them need based assistance. With the ultimate consent and support of committee members, we have supported 339 beneficiaries against the proposed numbers of 208.

  The project took some additional weeks to complete since the moral code of conduct was implemented because of the state assembly elections. Additional beneficiaries were enrolled in the process.

- The project was highly relevant since the proposed intervention has addressed resolving the problems that erupted due to floods in 2015. The constructions of temporary shelters and repairing works have saved many families from becoming homeless. The beneficiaries were living in streets, neighbour’s house, and churches until we provided them with shelters.

  Many had lost their small businesses in floods which was their only source of income. Our intervention was much relevant in addressing their problems by assisting them in restoring their business. Skill trainings imparted to trans-women community was praiseworthy since it has enhanced their capacity, empowered them and made them self-reliant financially.

- All the respondents said that the project was sustainable. The repairing and construction of shelters will last for many years and ensured the safety and dignity for the women and girls in their families. The livelihood supports have created a base for income generation and they have strengthened and develop their businesses further with the profit earned.

  Ms. Lakshmi, who is in the business of selling sarees, says: “I resumed my business with Rs.5,000 worth of sarees provided by ActionAid. Now, my business has grown three times. I am able to place an order of sarees worth Rs.15,000 at a time. I am earning a profit of Rs.5,000 to Rs.6,000 per month.”

- The whole process was led by women members in the committee. The first step of our intervention was forming the committees with the women from the same communities. They were oriented on assessing the damages and identifying the beneficiaries. The list of beneficiaries was prepared by the committee members and the intervention process was also carried out by them. They received all the quotations for the purchases made and arranged the labourers and masons to carry the construction works.

  Thamayanthi, one of the committee members, says: “We do not know the rates of cement or the wages to be paid to the labourers. We ourselves got the contracts and ordered the raw materials. We worked as contractors as well as labourers. We all members took turns to take up the responsibilities of supervisors and labourers from 5.30 am to 9.30 pm to complete the shelter repair project. It was a completely new experience for us, and great learning too.”

  The project was also monitored by our committee members and reported in weekly meetings. A transparency board was also put up in the community with the works carried out and expenses incurred.

  Yes, the women hold the complete responsibility throughout the intervention process and community rendered its full support. They were the final decision makers and women were invited and trained to lead the whole process. Now they have started to take care of local issues in their community.

  Respondents said that they could witness only ActionAid, SIEMENS and NAWO as the only stakeholders involved in this relief and rehabilitation process. We were the only respondents and there was not any support rendered by the government or other local politicians other than the minimum relief amount of Rs.5,000 for each family.

  Yes, the respondents said certainly the project could be adopted in other areas, particularly engaging women and prioritising them as beneficiaries. This project could be implemented for the homeless people from the urban slums and enabling the women to lead the community has highly encouraged them.

  This is a suitable and sustainable project for the people living in slums and so we can extend this to deserving people in the same communities. If viable, it could be planned with community toilets and constructed for the purpose of women and girls in the community.
Trans-woman’s transition from an exploited sex worker to expert Biryani-maker

Reshma, a trans-woman beneficiary, profusely thanks ActionAid for her transformation from a sex worker to a successful Biryani-maker.

“Indeed, I feel this moment very special because ActionAid made me feel special,” she says, excitement to share her experience visible on her face.

Recounting the fateful days of the floods, Reshma, an inhabitant of the Coovum riverside, says she and 17 other fellow trans-women underwent untold miseries in the aftermath of the disaster.

She says: “The floods invaded our homes suddenly, like an unwanted guest. Our homes were full of water in an instant and we had to move out with our bare minimum. The streets were deluged with flood water and we moved to Loyola College located nearby. I survived for more than ten days with the same clothes. We were happy to witness that people in rescue camps accommodated us on the same floor but it was also painful to be treated as inferior by young boys in our time of misery. Of course! The same gender discrimination. However I would not like to remember the bitter experiences of the past. Without electricity, eatables, provision stores, mobile connectivity we turned to the life of Stone Age era.”

Selling sex used to be Reshma’s main source of income, followed by begging. In the aftermath of the floods, however, she had no income from any of the two sources. “We just had steam rice for a week and afterwards it was very difficult to get the next meal,” she says.

Reshma says when the people from ActionAid visited the place to assess the flood survivors, the 18-member trans-women community was identified. “They had discussions with us to find ways to extend their support. We requested for livelihood support which could benefit us in earning some income. They appointed a committee within our community and sought a proposal on types of support needed,” she says.

Trans-women are usually skilled in cooking and Reshma was no exception. When she told the ActionAid team about her biryani-making skills, she was supported with utensils to make them and her life changed forever.

“Biryani is one of the most preferred dishes in our area. So I started selling it to earn my livelihood. Soon I got orders to cook in celebrations. Now the expert biryani cook proudly says that she cooks in around four colleges daily. ‘I felt like riding on moon when I paid my electricity bill from the profit earned by this start-up business,’” she says.

Engaging with a new livelihood opportunity helped her come out of the sex work and that has given her the ultimate rights over her body and no one can exploit it anymore. A confident Reshma says: “My dreams have come true and this is the real reason for celebrating my moment. The income I earn from cooking is not sufficient. I often go for collection on streets but sex work against my interest is absolutely out of question. People from my community discouraged me when I opted for the biryani business rather than sex work. But today they are waiting for an opportunity from ActionAid to start a business and quit their sex work.”

Reshma is happy that her culinary skills have been acknowledged by her community. Now, she has set her target on establishing a food catering business model with the help of peers from her community.

Case study

Section C: Feedbacks from corporates (interview schedule)

Challenges faced by corporates during their engagement in disaster response:

- Deciding about particular intervention
  We do not face problem in deciding the intervention as we have defined focus area for disaster response as WASH

- Partnership with CSO
  Good

- Deputing human resource for the disaster response work
  Employees are active and charged with emotions and ready to participate in the disaster response. However, aligning with ActionAid on identifying activities for volunteering from our employees is challenging. Nevertheless, we did it together and our employees conducted needs assessment for the rehabilitation part

- Monitoring and evaluation
  We got regular updates with pictures which is very helpful for us

- Comments on the intervention:
  Yes, the disaster relief and rehabilitation project was effective. It addressed the problem for which it was intended?

- Deciding about particular intervention
  We do not face problem in deciding the intervention as we have defined focus area for disaster response as WASH

- Partnership with CSO
  Good

- Deputing human resource for the disaster response work
  Employees are active and charged with emotions and ready to participate in the disaster response. However, aligning with ActionAid on identifying activities for volunteering from our employees is challenging. Nevertheless, we did it together and our employees conducted needs assessment for the rehabilitation part

- Monitoring and evaluation
  We got regular updates with pictures which is very helpful for us

- Comments on the intervention:
  Yes, the disaster relief and rehabilitation project was effective. It addressed the problem for which it was intended?

- Was the project relevant?
  Did it address most important problems of the affected area?
  Yes

- Was the project sustainable?
  Will it last beyond the project period without any further resources?
  No sure, as mentioned above

- Did the community take a lead in this?
  Was there any women leadership in the intervention?
  Yes, there was community involvement right from planning and implementation of the project. The support focused on women.

- Can the project be adapted in other areas and situations?
  Yes, the project supports vulnerable women in their livelihood and shelter repair and can be replicated in other areas and situations

- Is there any scope of improvement in this project?
  Please elaborate
  The project can have phasing in through government schemes, creating awareness session on govt schemes, etc. to ensure sustainability of the project

- Did the project ensure transparency in its implementation?
  Yes.

- Were all stakeholder aware about their due from the project?
  Yes
The CCP of Biripur village was first developed in 2015 with the leadership of women of the community. The CCP was approved by the gram sabha and accepted by the emergency unit of district administration. The CCP was again revisited on May 10 and May 11 in active participation of women leaders, vulnerable groups and panchayati raj institution (PRI) members.

The objective of revisiting of CCP was to reflect on the progress against the previous plans, documenting the changes in demography, understanding and identifying the changes in resources, identifying the change in infrastructures within the village and identifying vulnerable people. The revisiting of CCP also aimed to reflect on the roles of task forces that were formed during the last planning process, documenting their efforts and achievements and understanding the difficulties they faced while implementing the plan. Along with the progress, gaps and emerging issues were identified and plans were made to address the issues. Revisiting of CCP gave an opportunity to take a fresh look into the community needs from the perspective of DRR and rework the plan.

The CCP facilitating team discussed with the women leaders and task force members about the objective and need for revisiting CCP. They together discussed with the PRI about revisiting CCP. Also they discussed about contacting the key stakeholders such as government and private sector to join the process. They contacted the private companies situated in the local area. The team fixed two days for each village for conducting the revisiting. The dates were finalised in consultation with PRIs and vulnerable groups of the village. Once the dates were finalized, the women leaders and task force members disseminated information in the community about the revisiting process. It was decided that the meeting will be held in the primary school situated near the Dalit hamlet. The date was communicated to all the stakeholders.

The task forces read out the old plan. Mapping of progress against each plan was documented and discussed. The gaps were identified. The PRI members especially the ward member those are responsible for the concerned hamlets/villages were present. Task force members shared about their experiences while implementing the plans. Discussion was held on the role the task forces played. Emerging needs were identified and discussed and future plan was prepared.

### Major Findings

#### Demography

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>637</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### House Types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of houses in 2015</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Type of houses in 2017</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pucca House</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>Pucca House</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>15 concrete houses have been constructed after linking to housing schemes of govt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thatched House</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Thatched House</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tin House</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Tin House</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Identification of thatched houses

Thatched house No. 12, 15, 32, 44, 48, 57, 66, 68, 74, 88, 95, 99

#### Total Dalit Families – 122

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Land in 2015</th>
<th>Quantity (in acre)</th>
<th>Type of Land in 2017</th>
<th>Quantity (in acre)</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up Land</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>Up Land</td>
<td>90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plain Land</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Plain Land</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Land</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Low Land</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Few Dalit families have developed the wasteland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gochar Land</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gochar (Grazing) Land</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Land</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Forest Land</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Land ownership – 2015 (agricultural land) | Quantity | Land Ownership – 2017 (agricultural land) | Quantity | Remarks
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Big Farmer | 8 | Big Farmer | 12 | Families have purchased land
Middle Class Farmer | 5 | Middle Class Farmer | 11 |
Small Farmer | 37 | Small Farmer | 77 |
Land Less | 18 | Land Less | 22 | Few families have sold their land
Total | 118 | Total | 122 |

Sources of Drinking water-2015 | Sources of Drinking water-2017
--- | ---
Tube Well – 4 | Tube Well – 4
Open Well – 2 | Open Well – 2

Other water bodies
Pond – 1 | Pond – 1
Canal – 5 | Canal – 5

Hazard analysis
Biripur expects flood during the months of June, July and August. During pre-monsoon (April, May, June) and during return monsoon (October, November), they usually face cyclonic storms. Flood is caused by overflowing in the Rishikulya river during monsoon or due to the backlog water from the delta of Rishikulya and sea. Flash flood causes more loss than normal flood because the water logging remains for a long duration.

Vulnerability mapping

| Detail of vulnerable persons/families | Who are vulnerable | Type of vulnerability | No. of Persons | House No. |
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Women | Problem of accessing different community places for their daily living and to be used for sanitation. Double work load of household work and livelihood earning. Nutritional deficiency due to lack of food, abuse and exploitation, skin and water borne diseases, neglect by society | | |
Adolescent girls | Problem of accessing different community places for their daily living and to be used for sanitation, nutritional deficiency due to lack of food, abuse and exploitation, skin and water borne diseases, neglect by society | | 46 |
Pregnant and lactating women | Risk of life, physically dependent on others, lack of proper care and fellow up by health workers, nutritionally deficient food, health problems due to insanitary conditions, water borne diseases, lactating mother face difficulty to breastfeed the baby. | 12 | 17, 25, 27, 41, 62, 73, 84, 86, 94, 99, 125, 108 |
Aged | Risk of life, hunger during and post disaster, health problems, sanitation problem, lack of proper care | 60 |

Person with disability | Risk of life, problem of accessing the community places, warning cannot be received, depend upon others for evacuation, cannot access relief centre | 8 | 5, 8, 25, 29, 31, 48, 51 |
children below 5 years of age | Risk of life, depend on others for evacuation, depend on others for all day long process of living, nutritional deficiency due to lack of food, abuse and exploitation, skin and water borne diseases, neglect by society | 71 | 5, 4, 16, 24, 17, 27, 39, 45, 57, 66, 73, 86, 95, 98, 101, 108 |
Single women | Problem of accessing the community places, abuse and exploitation, skin and water borne diseases, neglect by society | 16 | 4, 6, 14, 17, 19, 24, 36, 41, 51, 66, 73, 86, 95, 98, 101, 108 |
Fisher Families | Risk of life, problem of accessing the community places, warning cannot be received. | 15 |
People with thatch roofed and kuccha wall | Risk of life | 12 | 12, 15, 32, 44, 49, 57, 66, 68, 74, 88, 95, 99 |

Identification of safe shelter

| Sl. No | Safe shelter | Remarks |
--- | --- | ---
1 | Cyclone shelter -1 | Cyclone shelter has been constructed newly after the plan being developed in original CCP in 2015. | 1 |
2 | Primary school building – 1 | Cyclone shelter has been constructed near the Dalit hamlet called Bauri Sahi. |
3 | Ramachandi hill |

Plan-2015 | Progress in 2017 | Remark |
--- | --- | ---
Construction of multiple cyclone shelter | Cyclone shelter has been constructed by the government | The women leaders along with PRI members and task force members lobbied with block development officer-BDO and district administration for the same. Govt. had decided to construct in the beginning of the village where as water logging takes place at the last part of the village where Dalits reside. Women leaders of Dalit hamlet and task force members fought a lot for construction of cyclone shelter near the Dalit hamlet. |
Concrete road inside the village | This has been completed |
Construction of individual toilets | Not yet done | This has again been placed in new plan. |
Provision of safe drinking water | Not yet done | This has again been placed in new plan. |
Construction of concrete houses of families who have thatched house. | 15 families have been linked to housing schemes and 15 houses have been constructed. |
What are attempts made by the committee members for success of the plan?

- Written petition to the block development officer.
- Written petition to the panchayat.
- Meeting with the tahasildar in tahasil office.
- Approval in PALLI SABHA and GRAM SABHA.

Future plans for combating ensuing disaster?

- Renovation of village pond
- Construction of drainage systems for proper drainage of flood water.
- Construction of a bridge over KHARI NALAH/ canal between village and Ramachandi Hill.
- Provision of safe drinking water.
- Construction of individual toilets.
- Capacity building of task forces.

Preparation of task forces to face flood/ cyclone

- Chlorinated all the tube wells and open wells till the month of June.
- Cleaning of the village roads and drain.
- First aid and equipment boxes are kept ready and available with the task forces.
- Cyclone Shelter is kept neat and clean. Equipment in cyclone shelter is in place.
- Health check-up of new born babies, pregnant women, diseased people will be done.
- Capacity building of task forces.

Re-formation of village task forces

Discussion was held on status of task forces. It was found that few members have died and few have migrated to urban areas for joining services. The task forces were re-formed based on the need. New task force members met each other, discussed about the role of task forces before, during and after disaster. The need for capacity building of task forces was discussed. The village disaster management committee (VDMC) and women leaders decided to approach the PRI, private sectors and NGOs to provide support for capacity building programmes.

Rules for formation of task forces

- According to the preference of the community, each group should have 5-10 members.
- Each group should have representation of single women, adolescent girls and people with disabilities (PWDs).
- The whereabouts of the group member should be documented and displayed in the community centre.
- The task force should meet once in a month and discuss the work they have done and any emerging problem of the village.
- Information dissemination committee

List of village task forces

1. Information dissemination committee
2. Evacuation, search and rescue committee
3. First aid committee
4. WASH committee
5. Cyclone shelter management committee
6. Assessment and coordination committee
7. Relief distribution group
8. Women and girls’ rights protection committee
9. Reconstruction and rehabilitation committee
10. VDMC

1. Information dissemination committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Member name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Telephone No.</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Kailash Das</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sari Das</td>
<td>F</td>
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</table>

Major functions different task forces

Before disaster
- Will receive information from different sources and will disseminate the same to the early warning committee and amongst the villagers.
- Will provide information first to the vulnerable people and then to others.
- Will apprise people about the intensity, probable time and place of occurrence of disaster.
- Will announce for taking safety measures in the house such as to keep broken. Ladders, dried woods, unused loose tin sheets etc. inside the house which will cause harm to life by flying during cyclone.
- Will announce to keep livelihood tools and implements at safe places.

During disaster
- Will inform people and evacuation team about safe shelters/places.
- Will inform about important documents to be taken along with during evacuation process.
- Will inform about the alternate ways of reaching to the safe shelter.

After disaster
- Will inform people about return to the houses.

2. Evacuation, search and rescue committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Member name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
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<th>Telephone No.</th>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Simanchal Das</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Narayan Das</td>
<td>M</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
During disaster
- Will evacuate the most vulnerable people first.
- Will evacuate people who are stuck in difficult situation.
- Will advise the fisherman those who reside in seashore, riverbank not to go into deep sea.
- Will keep the village domestic birds & animals in a safer place. One should be watchful that they should not be left out on their way to home.

After disaster
- Will provide immediate security to the people those who are staying in a ruined / abandoned house or in other places.

3. First aid committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Telephone No.</th>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Maggi Das</td>
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</table>

Before disaster
- Will prepare a detailed list of senior aged, sick, children, disabled and pregnant women of the village.
- Will store and distribute required medicines.
- Will carry out the available stock medicines and first aid treatment equipments of the village to cyclone shelter or to a safer place during the time of flood/ cyclone.

During disaster
- Will provide attention for first aid treatment to the individuals those who are injured or rescued during the time of flood / cyclone.

After disaster
- Will provide treatment as per the requirement after disaster to the people with minor injury.
- Will refer the call government doctors for treatment of major injuries ailments.
- Will sent the patents to hospital who suffer from major ailments.

4. WASH committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SL No.</th>
<th>Member name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
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<th>Telephone No.</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jhunu Das Husband - kalia</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Budu Das</td>
<td>M</td>
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</table>

Before disaster
- Will collect water testing box, bleaching powder, brooms, kerosene to decompose the dead body, fire wood and jute bag, iron rod for digging, tarpaulins, spade, wood logs for temporary toilets.

During disaster
- Will arrange/collect relief materials from the source to maintain buffer stocks.
- Sensitise community on contagious diseases and prevention methods.
- Ensure availability of enough safe drinking water.
- To create awareness about toilet use and maintaining cleanliness in the cyclone shelter.

After disaster
- To disinfect the sources of drinking water, such as – tube well and open wells in the village.
- To decompose the dead bodies of birds and animals far away from the village.
- To clean the debris in the village, surrounding the cyclone shelter.

5. Cyclone shelter management committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SL No.</th>
<th>Member name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Telephone No.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sashi Das</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ganesh Das</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Sankar Das</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Suprana Das</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Jada Das</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Renu Das</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Before disaster
- Will check in advance status of the, latrine, water tank, etc. available in the shelter.
- Will check the status of identified safe shelters such as cyclone shelter, school building.
- Will arrange proper health and sanitation facility at the shelter.
- Will manage the shelter by allocating proper space for men, women, pregnant, lactating mother, adolescent girls keeping safety and hygiene into account.

During disaster
- Ensure that people come to shelter with minimum food/water/candle/match box/ other day today requirements.
- Register the name of the evacuees.
- Make special arrangements for pregnant women and ailing persons.
- Will maintain peace at shelter.
- Will make necessary arrangements to divert the attention of the panicked people.
- Will ensure availability of a transistor radio in the shelter.
Post disaster
- Will provide necessary support to the people as long they stay in the shelter.
- Will ensure that people not get panicky with rumours.
- Will support other teams.

6. Relief distribution committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SL No.</th>
<th>Member name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Telephone No.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ram chandra Das</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Subash Das</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Hema Das</td>
<td>F</td>
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</table>

Before disaster
- Will enlist the number of families staying inside the village shelter house.
- Will arrange drinking water, food for children, dry foods, solar lantern, torch light from tarpaulin and other materials from government sources.
- Will discuss with the authorities of both government and non-government organisations about provision of additional relief materials required afterwards.

During disaster
- Will render help to inmates remaining in shelter for faster delivery of relief to the people like pregnant women, single women, delivery women, lactating mothers, disabled, children, senior citizens, etc.
- Will supervise the stock of relief materials, to list out the materials which are exhausted and to collect such materials as soon as possible.
- Will help in distribution of relief among the families avoiding conflict.

After disaster
- To ensure that the relief materials that come after one or two weeks of disaster reach to the vulnerable people first.
- Will discuss with government and PRI about the access of community to the relief declared by government.

7. Adolescent girls’ and women’s rights protection committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SL No.</th>
<th>Member name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sabita Das</td>
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<td>Sasti Das</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kuni Das</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Rajani Das</td>
<td>F</td>
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</table>

Responsibilities
- Will identify protection issues of women and adolescent girls in the shelter and in the community and address it.
- Will make special arrangements for women and adolescent girls in the shelter.
- Will assure safety and security of women and adolescent girls.
- Will make the shelter place abuse free.
- Will ensure that pregnant and lactating mothers get adequate food.
- Will ensure availability of sanitary napkins in the shelter.
- Will coordinate with all other teams and key stake holder for making necessary arrangements for the safety and security of women and adolescent girls.

8. Assessment and coordination committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SL No.</th>
<th>Member name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Telephone No.</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bishnu Das</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Trinath Das</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Balaram Das</td>
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<td>Sukumari Das</td>
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Responsibilities
- Will coordinate amongst all the teams and will help in smooth operation of each task force committee.
- Will do assessment of losses, prepare assessment report and submit to government.
- Will interact with administration for adequate relief and rehabilitation.
- Will coordinate between the community and the government officials.
9. Reconstruction and rehabilitation committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SL No.</th>
<th>Member name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Telephone No.</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Babula Das</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Jayanti Das</td>
<td>F</td>
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</table>

Responsibilities
- Will prepare rehabilitation plan based on assessment report.
- Will facilitate smooth and effective rehabilitation and reconstruction program of government and other agencies.
- Will prioritise and ensure that women and vulnerable groups get adequate rehabilitation and reconstruction support from government and other agencies.

10. Village disaster management committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SL No.</th>
<th>Member name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Kuni Das</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Responsibilities
- Will call for a meeting of all committees once disaster is announced.
- Will delegate responsibility to all the taskforce committee members.
- Will do overall supervision and management of pre, during and post disaster management and resilience building activities.

The present status of disaster management committee
- There is a saving amount of Rs.4,025 in village disaster security fund.
- There is a saving amount of Rs.1,225 in struggle fund now, constituted under the leadership of women.
- VDMC has identified and prepared list of 35 skilled men and women of the village such as carpenter, boatman, driver, electricians, etc.
- VDMC regularly meets once in a quarter. They discuss about the work of the committee. They replace the migrated and deceased members and take new members.