



Annual Report 2015

January, 2016

Abbreviations

ACF	Action Contre La Faim
BDS	Bangladesh Development Society
BRUP	Building Resilience of the Urban Poor
BURO Bangladesh	Basic Unit for Resources and Opportunities of Bangladesh
CA	Christian Aid
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CCDA	Center for Community Development Assistance
CDC	Community Development Committee
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CHS	Core Humanitarian Standard
CODEC	Community Development center
CTII	CTI Engineering International Co., Ltd.
DAE	Department of Agricultural Extension
DCA	DanChurch Aid
DDM	Department of Disaster Management
DeSHARI	Developing and Strengthening Humanitarian Assistance and Risk Reduction Initiatives
DPM	Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DUS	Dwip Unnayan Sangstha
EC	Executive Committee
FIVDB	Friends in Village Development Bangladesh
GC	General Committee
GNDR	Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction
GUK	Gano Unnayan Kendra
GUP	Grameen Jonokollyan Sangsad
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GoB	Government of Bangladesh
IEC	Information, Education and Communication

IGD	Interactive Group Discussion
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KII	Key Informant Interview
LGI	Local Government Institution
MA	Muslim Aid
MoDMR	Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief
NDP	National Development Programme
NIRAPAD	Network for Information, Response And Preparedness Activities on Disaster
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
POPI	People's Oriented Program Implementation
RIC	Resource Integration Center
SDS	Shariatpur Development Society
TMSS	Thengamara Mohila Sabuj Sangha
UDPS	Uttara Development Program Society
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USS	Unnayan Sahayak Sangstha
VERC	Village Education Resource Center
MMS	Manab Mukti Sangstha
SKS	SKS Foundation
SMC	School Management Committee
SOP	Standard Operational Procedures
ToR	Terms of Reference
UDMC	Union Disaster Management Committee
WDMC	Ward Disaster Management Committee
WHS	World Humanitarian Summit
YPSA	Young Power in Social Action

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Message from the Chairperson

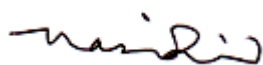
Location of Bangladesh between the Himalayan mountain range and the Bay of Bengal, three river systems, and flat and low-lying terrain and proximity to active tectonic fault line make the country vulnerable to disaster. Common natural hazards that occur at regular interval include cyclone, tidal surge, wind storm, flood, water logging, land slide, riverbank erosion, salinity intrusion and drought as well as fire and boat capsizing. Numerous of these incidences at low magnitude affect all parts of the country every year. They create distress for large number of people and cause huge damage to asset and livelihoods. As well, large scale disasters occur at less frequent interval and cause human casualty along with huge damage to asset and livelihoods and disruption of the services.

Disasters destroy life, asset and environment. Recently Cyclone Sidr in 2007 killed about 3,406 people and injured 55,282 people (MoDMR, 2008). Savar building collapse in 2013 killed 1,129 people and injured 2,500 people. Flood in 2007 damaged about 3,705 km roads, 88 km embankment, 360 bridges/culverts and 563 educational institutions. Cyclone Aila in 2009 permanently inundated large parts of southwest coast region; and contaminated surface and ground water and crop lands with salinity. Disasters also disrupt services and social functions. Disruption of communication network caused by cyclone Sidr impeded transportation for relief goods to the affected localities. Moreover, about 8,000 schools remained closed following the Sidr incidence.

Disaster affected people suffers from deprivation and distresses. Their access to food, water, sanitation and medical care shrinks drastically. Many of them become shelter less; and have to live in make-shift houses. Cyclone Aila force some 150,000 people to live on the embankments; and even after six years, many of them have to continue that. Women suffer additionally; because, maintain personal hygiene becomes very difficult; and displacement increases their exposure to abuse, sexual harassment and violence. Moreover, they had to take responsibilities as household heads where main breadwinner of families died or were missing or wounded seriously in disaster. Impact of disaster on children is also long term. In addition to reduced access to food, water, sanitation and medical care, they may have dropped out of school and go to work for income.

Hazards cannot be stopped. If people have sufficient preparation, loss of lives and assets can be reduced significantly. For this, capacity building of the communities, institutions and respective organizations is needed. Acknowledging the need for capacity building of the stakeholders, NIRAPAD with the cooperation of our member organisations, is working for strengthening disaster preparedness and risk reduction efforts in the country.

We look forward to continuing our work to reduce disaster risk in Bangladesh through diminution of disaster related information and knowledge gap and strengthening DRM abilities of the development organisations and communities.



Nasir Uddin Ahmed
Chairperson

Message from the Acting CEO

It is my great pleasure to present to you the Annual Report 2015. This report gives you a reflection of the important tasks that NIRAPAD has accomplished during this period. The report demonstrates commitment of NIRAPAD to continue to build on the past work and lessons, in order to reduce disaster risk in Bangladesh through diminution of disaster related information and knowledge gap and strengthening DRM abilities of the development organisations and communities.

In the year 2015, NIRAPAD has implemented a number of activities under its three focusing areas namely Knowledge Management; Technical support in DRR and CCA; and Collaboration and Partnership. During this period, a number of knowledge products have been developed by NIRAPAD and initiatives were taken to improve the knowledge level of the patrons using those products. As well, NIRAPAD has provided several numbers of technical supports to different national and international organisations. Furthermore, being a network, NIRAPAD helped others for value addition in disaster management sector through promoting and demonstrating global standards.

NIRAPAD had been developed as a knowledge based collaborative organisation having 22 member organisations and strong collaboration and relation with more than 100 local and international humanitarian agencies, institutions and organisations. The basic purpose of the coalition is to assist vulnerable people with knowledge, skill, attitude and resources to prepare, mitigate and manage disaster. For this, NIRAPAD is working for building capacity of the communities and humanitarian organisations.

Being a coalition, NIRAPAD strongly believes in value addition and complementarity of working together to strengthen capacity of communities and humanitarian agencies with knowledge, skill, attitude and resources to cope with disaster. The progress made by NIRAPAD with limited staff and resources provide a hope for future expansion of the organisation. It is important to note that the challenge lies on resource mobilisation by using the existing reputation as well as skill and knowledge.

I, on behalf of NIRAPAD, extend my gratitude to all stakeholders including member organisations, Government, national and international NGOs, donors and resource persons for the cooperation extended that enabled us to go ahead. As well, I am grateful to the members of Executive Committee for their strategic direction and necessary guidance. Also, I would like to convey sincere thanks to colleagues at NIRAPAD for their contributions.



Hasina Akter Mita
Programme Manager and Acting CEO

1. NIRAPAD at a Glance

1.1. Background of NIRAPAD

Network for Information, Response And Preparedness Activities on Disaster (NIRAPAD), a network of 22 non-government organisations, works for reducing disaster risk in Bangladesh through diminution of disaster related information and knowledge gap and strengthening Disaster Risk Management (DRM) abilities of the development organisations and communities. Initially with the funding support from USAID, CARE Bangladesh and its disaster management partner NGOs formed a coalition and established NIRAPAD as an NGO network in 1997. However, due to its nature of work NIRAPAD got separated from CARE Bangladesh in 2008 and came forth as a full-fledged independent entity. NIRAPAD got its registration from NGO Affairs Bureau, Bangladesh on 19th May 2010. Under this new identity, NIRAPAD had been developed as a knowledge based collaborative organisation having strong collaboration and relation with more than 100 local and international humanitarian agencies, institutions and organisations. NIRAPAD promotes and supports collaboration with wider community. The Government of Bangladesh recognised it and included NIRAPAD as a member in the Bangladesh DRR Platform.

Over time, NIRAPAD's mandate had been shifted from information sharing to knowledge generation and management, providing technical support in DRR and CCA and promoting collaboration and partnership. Ensuring accountability at all levels as well as establishing a rightful accountable humanitarian system is another mandatory issue for the organisation. Since reformation the organisation had also been proactively involved in promotion and mainstreaming various cross cutting issues (i.e. good governance, gender, environment, etc.) and humanitarian standards (i.e. CHS, Sphere minimum standards etc.).

1.2. Vision and Mission

Vision: DRM agencies following, integrating and mainstreaming the national and International Drivers and progress towards risk-free Bangladesh.

Mission: Provide support and services to the DRM agencies for strengthening progress in the field of DRM and CCA.

1.3. Goal and Objective

Goal: To be developed as a sustainable organization with enhanced capacity to manage knowledge and information on disaster risk reduction for advocacy and stakeholders' capacity building.

Objectives:

- Strengthen the knowledge management process on DRM & CCA field at national level;
- Provide the capacity development support for integrating DRM & CCA to organizations;
- Support collaboration and partnership with national and global stakeholders for promoting DRR and CCA initiatives.

1.4. Strategic Focus

NIRAPAD revised its strategic focus through rigorous consultations with stakeholders having demonstrated organizational capacity as well as strong connection and background in DRR, CCA and humanitarian development. Strategically NIRAPAD focuses on three major areas i.e. DRR and CCA

related capacity enhancement; knowledge management and Collaboration and partnership. The strategies emphasize on three specific building blocks namely knowledge management, Technical support and collaboration and partnership, as the basic means of attaining the goals, objectives and materializing the mission of NIRAPAD.

- **Knowledge management:** By knowledge management the organisation means generation, regeneration, storage, availability and free flow of DRR and CCA related information and knowledge. Under this strategic focus NIRAPAD aims to facilitate DRR and CCA related knowledge generation processes, store existing DRR and CCA knowledge as well as ensure free flow of information. This approach will positively contribute the humanitarian sector in accessing a wide range of information on disaster situation, relevant technologies, technical resource persons, public preparedness private and NGO sectors in disaster response and mitigations, disaster related support and available services etc.
- **Technical support in DRR and CCA Field:** Another aspect of NIRAPAD's strategic focus is to provide technical support in various Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) projects, programmes and initiatives. Throughout the years the organisation has gained valuable experience and developed expertise in DRR and CCA that carries a certain value in the sector. NIRAPAD uses these resources for providing technical support in DRR and CCA. This initiative enables NIRAPAD to demonstrate its commitment and responsibilities for disaster risk reduction.
- **Partnership and Collaboration:** Being a networking organization, the scope of NIRAPAD obligates it in DRR and CCA related advocacy and lobbying with the policy makers, donors, corporate sectors and others actors for drawing greater attention and resources allocation in disaster risk reduction. For effective DRR and CCA related advocacy and lobbying NIRAPAD has included promoting collaboration and partnership into its strategic focus. This approach enables NIRAPAD to collaborate as well as establish formal and informal partnerships with a wide range of organisation, institutions, bodies and stakeholders at national and global level.

1.5. Geographic Focus

Activities of NIRAPAD should not be confined within certain limited geographic areas; rather spread over the whole country through its member organizations and through building collaboration with other organizations and networks. However, during emergency its geographic focus should be the most affected areas.

1.6. Legal Basis

NIRAPAD is a legal and authorized organization registered from NGO Affairs Bureau under the Foreign Donation (Voluntary Activities) Regulation Ordinance 1978 Reg. No. 2574 on May 19, 2010 and also registered under the societies Registration Act (XXI), Registration No. S-3411 (200), 2003.

1.7. Member of Platform

National: NIRAPAD is a member of Bangladesh National Disaster Platform.

Global: NIRAPAD is a Full Member of CHS Alliance. Also, NIRAPAD is a member of the Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR).

1.8. Member Organization

NIRAPAD has 22 member organizations working in disaster risk reduction throughout the country. Their list and working areas are given below:

Name of Member Organisation	Working Area
Bangladesh Development Society (BDS)	Barisal, Pirojpur, Patuakhali, Madaripur, Gopalganj
Basic Unit for Resources and Opportunities of Bangladesh (BURO Bangladesh)	45 districts in the country
CARE Bangladesh	All over the country
Center for Community Development Assistance (CCDA)	Comilla
Community Development center (CODEC)	Chittagong, Laxmipur, Noakhali, Patuakhali, Bariguna, Rangamati, Bagerhat
Dwip Unnayan Sangstha (DUS)	Noakhali, Bhola, Laxmipur
Friends In Village Development Bangladesh (FIVDB)	Sylhet, Hobiganj, Moulvibazar, Sunamganj, Brahminbaria
Gano Unnayan Kendra (GUK)	Gaibandha
Gana Unnayan Prochesta (GUP)	Madaripur, Gopalganj, Shariatpur, Faridpur and Chittagong
Grameen Jonokollyan Sangsad (GJKS)	Sylhet, Hobiganj, Moulvibazar, Sunamganj
National Development Programme (NDP)	4 districts
People's Oriented Program Implementation (POPI)	18 districts
Prodipan	Khulna, Bagerhat, Dhaka, Gazipur, Narayanganj, Jamalpur, Gaibandha, Kishoreganj, Sylhet, Rajshahi, Chittagong, Barisal, Narail, Satkhira
RDRS Bangladesh	Rangpur, Dinajpur, Thakurgaon, Panchagar, Kurigram, Lalmonirhat, Nilfhamari, Jamalpur, Hobiganj, Moulvibazar
Resource Integration Center (RIC)	Dhaka, Munsiganj, Narsingdhi, Gazipur, Cox's Bazar, Pirojpur, Bagerhat, Noakhali, Nogaon, Rajshai, Khulna
Shariatpur Development Society (SDS)	Shariatpur, Fairdpur
Thengamara Mohila Sabuj Sangha (TMSS)	26 districts
Uttara Development Program Society (UDPS)	Panchagar, Takurgaon, Dinajpur, Bogra, Natore, Pabna, Sirajganj, Dhaka
Unnayan Sahayak Sangstha (USS)	Sylhet
Village Education Resource Center (VERC)	Dhaka, Narayanganj, Manikganj, Chapainawabganj, Rajshai, Naogaon, Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Bhola
Manab Mukti Sangstha (MMS)	Sirajganj, Tangail and Pabna
SKS Foundation (SKS)	Gaibandha, Rangpur and Bogra
Young Power in Social Action (YPSA)	Chittagong City Corporation and greater Chittagong division

1.9. Corporate Structure

NIRAPAD is operated as per the provisions of the approved constitutions of the organization. NIRAPAD has an Executive Committee consists of eight members that take all the important decisions to function it. NIRAPAD coordinator acts a Chief Executive Officer of the organization and by designation member secretary of the executive committee.

From the beginning, member organizations of NIRAPAD have subscribed to building a common fund. The member organizations continue to contribute to the fund on a yearly basis. It owns two types of organizational structure to govern and policy formulation and an established secretariat headed by Member Secretary by his designation to operate day-to-day activities.

These are as follows:

- a. General Committee
- b. Executive Committee
- c. NIRAPAD Secretariat
- d. Secretariat Staff(s)

a. General Committee (GC)

The General Committee consist of 22 members has formed including the representatives of the senior personnel of the member organization. It meets at least once in a year. It approves the constitution amendment, elect executive committee, approve strategic plan, annual work plan and audit report of the organisation.

b. Executive Committee (EC)

The members of General Committee democratically elect the Executive Committee of NIRAPAD for the period of 2 (two) years. It consists by 08 members. Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Secretariat by designation is the Member Secretary of the committee. As per constitution and organisational requirements, it meets quarterly in a year and performs such functions as entrusted to it by this constitution.

The Executive Committee (EC) oversees programs and activities of NIRAPAD, which are the responsibilities, subject to the aims and objectives of the organization, to determine the direction and scope of the activities of it. List of current Executive Committee Members are stated below:

1. Mr. Nasir Uddin Ahmed – Chairperson
2. *Currently Vacant* – Vice Chairperson
3. Mr. Sirajul Islam - Finance Secretary
4. Mr. Hasina Akter Mita - Member Secretary
5. Mr. Abul Haseeb Khan - Member
6. Mr. Md. Rafiqul Alam - Member
7. Mr. Mozibur Rahman - Member
8. Mr. Md. Alauddin Khan - Member

d. NIRAPAD Secretariat

The CEO is responsible for management and implementation of programs as of yearly plan derivative from Strategic Plan of NIRAPAD. The organisation has formed its Secretariat Team to ensure ownership, greater participation and dynamic partnership among its staff members in order to establish an effective and efficient management system, and foster transparency, accountability and decentralisation of programs and its execution. Hence, the Secretariat Team works to ensure translation of NIRAPAD's mission; coordinate and facilitate program activities, sharing, mentoring and supporting understanding the needs of beneficiaries and designing new projects; and also decide, modify and implement internal policy decisions.

e. Secretariat Staff

NIRAPAD has some specialised staff with high level of commitment to render its services to the target beneficiaries. The staff of NIRAPAD are classified as full time staff and part time consultant. Moreover, it has a large number of listed resource pools. The list of existing full time staff of NIRAPAD is mentioned below:

Sl. No.	Name	Position
1.	Ms. Hasina Akter Mita	Manager-Programme and Acting Chief Executive Officer
2.	Ms. Umma Kulsum	Manager -Finance & Admin
3.	Mr. Sohel Rana	Admin Officer
4.	Yeasmin Begum	Casual Staff

2. NIRAPAD's Activities in 2015

Activities of 2015 are described in the following based on the each strategic objective:

2.1. Knowledge Management

NIRAPAD conducts a noticeable variety of knowledge management activities in a regular basis following systematic sequence. Knowledge management activities are done through disaster and climate change related Information Collection and Sharing, Monitoring, Lesson learning, Documentation, Research, Publications, Archiving and Mapping throughout the year. In the year 2015, a number of knowledge products have been developed by NIRAPAD and initiatives were taken to improve the knowledge level of the patrons using those products. Knowledge management activities include preparation of monthly and daily hazard incidence report by own initiative and research works conducted with the support from other organisations. Knowledge management activities undertaken by NIRAPAD in 2015 are given below:

Prepare Monthly Hazard Incidence Report

In every month, NIRAPAD has prepared 'Monthly Report on Hazard Incidences in Bangladesh' with the aim of providing all stakeholders comprehensive information on the disaster events and their impacts; responses by Government and other stakeholders and lessons learned. The report portrayed general reflection of the hazards that took place in different places in each of the months, their impacts as well as associated response and the early recovery efforts undertaken by the Government and other humanitarian actors. NIRAPAD team has prepared these reports by reviewing available secondary documents (e.g. reports of National Dailies, GoB reports) regarding emergency

response interventions undertaken in each of the months. Each of the reports has been circulated to the wider stakeholders of DRM sector through email. Also, the reports have been uploaded in the website of NIRAPAD.

Prepare Daily Hazard Incidence Report

The Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR), an international network of organisations committed to working together to improve the lives of people affected by disasters world-wide, has initiated a campaign titled '365 disasters: a disaster a day from around the world'. Under this campaign, every day GNDR has tweeted details of a disaster happening around the world to highlight disasters passing under the radar and yet impacting the lives and livelihoods of hundreds of thousands. As a member of GNDR, NIRAPAD sends daily 'Hazard Incidence Report' to GNDR. The daily report portrayed general reflection of the hazards that took place every day and their impacts. NIRAPAD team has prepared the daily reports by reviewing available secondary documents (e.g. reports of National Dailies, GoB reports) regarding emergency response interventions undertaken in each of the months.

Conduct Study on Disaster Affected People's Reflections on Humanitarian Assistance in Bangladesh

NIRAPAD conducted a study with the support of member organisations to contribute to the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) to be held in 2016. It aims to help to map out the key challenges and opportunities for humanitarian action in South and Central Asia through informing the humanitarian challenges in Bangladesh and the key issues for rationalizing and improving humanitarian response. It focuses on natural and man-made hazards but does not include conflicts.

The methodology included individual survey with affected community, literature review and a series of discussion with disaster management personnel. For capturing the voices and perspectives of the affected people, individual surveys were conducted with affected community by the member organisations of NIRAPAD. For analyzing the primary and secondary data collected from field locations as well as different reports developed by NIRAPAD, a series of discussions among the disaster management personnel have been organised. It helped to map out the key challenges in Bangladesh and the key issues for rationalising and improving the humanitarian response.

The study identified nine key challenges in humanitarian response in Bangladesh. These are- Responding to Low Magnitude Disaster, Responding to Urban Disaster, Determining the Scope of Humanitarian Response, Determining Standards of the Support Provision, Addressing Women's Perspective in Humanitarian Response, Meeting Special Needs of the Specific Groups, Minimizing Exclusion Error in Targeting, Building Partnership between Local and International Agencies and Addressing Risk Elements in Humanitarian Response.



The study suggested that global humanitarian system should support to improve the country level capacity and effectiveness of the humanitarian response. Therefore, the key issues for global humanitarian system should include Mechanism for Ensuring Financial Resource for Responding to Low Magnitude Disaster, Provision for Improving Local Capacity to Integrate Risk Reduction Elements in Humanitarian Response, Arrangements for Providing Technology and Hardware for National Humanitarian System to Deal with Urban Disaster, Approach towards Shifting the Power in Partnership for Institutionalizing Local Capacity Building, and Humanitarian Assistance Framework for Promoting Humanitarian Principles.

Conduct Study on Livelihood Restoration Support Activities for Disaster Affected People in the Coastal Areas of Bangladesh

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) commissioned CTI Engineering International Co., Ltd. (CTII) to undertake a preparatory survey on the capacity enhancement on disaster risk reduction, emergency response and recovery project in the people’s republic of Bangladesh. To execute the Survey of Livelihood Restoration Support Activities for Disaster Victims and Proposal for Livelihood Restoration Plan, CTII seeks participation of local agency in an assignment to collect and analyse information about livelihood restoration support activities for disaster affected people. Therefore, it commissioned DUS (Dwip Unnayan Sangstha) to conduct the survey in targeted areas i.e. Satkhira, Bagerhat, Patuakhali and Barisal focusing. In this work, NIRAPAD provided technical support to DUS to conduct the study.

Objective of the study was to explore the existing livelihood restoration support systems for disaster affected people in the coastal region of Bangladesh and identify gaps in the livelihood restoration support systems. This study emphasized on the major disasters that occurred in the coastal areas during the last ten years – e.g. Cyclone Sidr, Cyclone Aila, Cyclone Mahasen and riverbank erosion. The study analyzed both the primary and secondary data. It conducted an extensive literature review on livelihood restoration system for disaster affected people, as well as, collected primary data from four unions of four upazilas (Assasuni under Satkhira, Morrelganj under Bagerhat, Kalapara under Patuakhali and Babuganj under Barisal district) using a range of methods that include Key Informant Interview (KII), Interactive Group Discussion (IGD) and questionnaire survey.



Photo 1: Conducting Orientation with Research Associates at NIRAPAD Conference Room, Dhaka



Photo 2: Conducting Interactive Group Discussion with Community People at Rahmatpur Union, Babuganj, Barisal

Field findings showed that insufficient coverage and lack of gender sensitivity are the major lacking in cyclone warning system. Inadequacy in the number of shelter and their facilities also hinder the proper evacuation process. Inadequate support for recovery of income and agriculture are the major lacking found in livelihood support system. Inadequate support, exclusion of the landless to be supported by the targeting policy and inappropriate technology for housing are the major problems in resettlement support system. Also, a major gap in the microfinance support system is that, it does not have provision for house building loans. Furthermore, low heights and poor maintenance are the major challenge for the sustainability of embankments and polders.

The study suggests that widen some sections of the embankment for resettling displaced households could be a useful support disaster affected people. Besides, it is crucial to introduce new knowledge, skills, technologies and crop varieties in the area that helps communities pursue saline resistant cropping, brackish water farming or marine aqua culture. House building loans could be introduced to help disaster affected people rebuild their shelters. Also, micro finance support should be organized to provide tools and technologies as well as capital for expanding livelihood options in agriculture and farming for disaster affected people. Digitizing of khas land database will make resettlement process easier and transparent. Besides, all efforts from the Government, Non-government Organization and the donor agencies should be conducted in a coordinated manner to restore the livelihood of the disaster affected people.

Conduct Bangladesh Country Context Analysis for Tearfund and World Renew

Tearfund and World Renew, two international Charity Organizations, commissioned NIRAPAD to conduct context analysis of Bangladesh in different sectors e.g. Population and Demography; Poverty and Livelihoods; Food Security and Agriculture; Urbanization and Migration; Mother and Child Health and Nutrition; Water and Sanitation; Protection and Trafficking; Gender and Diversity; Governance and Corruption; Disaster and Climate Change; Ethnic Minority Situation;. They will feed this information into their country strategic paper development process.

The study has explored the current situation of above mentioned sectors in Bangladesh. Firstly, review and analysis have been performed on the documents relating population and demography; poverty and livelihoods; urbanization and migration; health; education; water and sanitation; protection and trafficking; ethnic minority; gender and diversity; governance and corruption; and disaster and climate change. Also, documents relating policy and plan e.g. Vision 2021, Sixth Five Year Plan,



Photo 3: Validation Workshop on Bangladesh Country Context Analysis

National Plan for Disaster Management, Hyogo Framework of Action, Millennium Development Goal

etc. have been reviewed. Secondly, it has accumulated information from sector experts through meeting and interviews. Thirdly, collected data have been analyzed applying a framework and the report has been developed.

The study shows that unique geographic feature of the country exposes Bangladesh to numerous disasters. High density of population and poverty contribute to people's vulnerability. However, long experiences to deal with natural hazards enabled the communities improve their disaster management capacities. Also, the country has succeeded to reduce poverty, and presently it is in the transition to benefit from the population evident (i.e., favorable ratio of population economically active age group and economically burden age group). Agriculture performed well and contributed significantly to achieve food security. However, it becomes less able to provide employment for the growing population. Manufacturing and service sectors expanded hugely and their contributions to GDP had increased, although manufacturing industries remained localized in and around Dhaka. It generated huge pull factor for urbanization. This rapid urbanization created substantial challenges in terms of ensuring shelter for the urban dwellers and basic services for them.

Also, there are significant achievements in health sector. The country has achieved nearly all of its millennium goals; nevertheless, malnutrition continued to remain as a problem. Moreover, despite introduction of gender equity models of development plans, discrimination and violence against women in the society remained persistent. It is, largely, because, there has been very little changes in the local tradition, societal belief and attitude toward women. In the society, women are perceived as subordinate to men. Trafficking of women and children remained as a major concern. Children's exposure to abuse, violence and exploitation remained very high. Furthermore, the service provider face challenges to deliver basic services (e.g., health care, education) to the hard to reach communities (e.g. char dwelling people, ethnic minority communities).

Non-governmental organizations made significant contribution in poverty reduction efforts. Also, they were involved in promoting child rights and gender equity. With increase in GDP and huge economic growth, role of non-governmental organization, in effect, has become less significant in poverty reduction. However, NGOs have clear advantage over the hierarchically structured government agencies in reaching hard to reach community. Also, understanding and skill in the government system to ensure women and children's protection are weak; therefore, NGOs have huge potential to participate in the national efforts to promote gender equity, protection of children and women against abuse, sexual harassment, violence and exploitation. NGOs with their innovation, flexible structure and participatory approaches are better able to work with these groups.

Conduct Resilience and DRR Assessment for Future Project Development of DeSHARI Consortium

Developing and Strengthening Humanitarian Assistance and Risk Reduction Initiatives (DeSHARI), a Consortium of four International Non-Government Organisations- Action Contre La Faim (ACF), Christian Aid (CA), DanChurch Aid (DCA) and Muslim Aid (MA), commissioned NIRAPAD to conduct an assessment to identify the current gaps and scopes of resilience work in waterlogged areas of southwest Bangladesh. Overall objective of the assessment was to identify the current gaps and scopes on resilience work in the targeted district vulnerable to different natural hazards for future long term DRR and Resilience project.

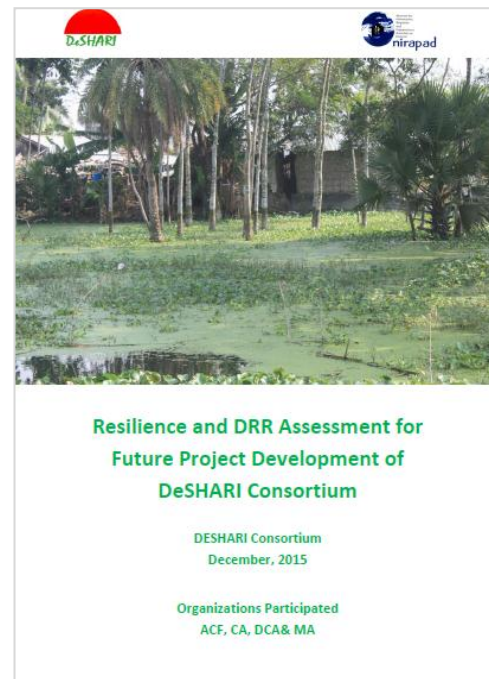
The scope of the study permitted to look at impacts and response of waterlogging of 2015 in Keshabpur upazila under Jessore district, Paikgacha upazila under Khulna district and Satkhira Sadar and Tala upazilas under Satkhira district. It included consultation with affected women and men, interview with the representatives from local Government bodies, local administration and local NGOs that involved in support program for waterlogging affected people. In addition, the study relied heavily on secondary literature for exploration of existing support system for waterlogging affected people in southwest Bangladesh.

Field investigation looked at only eight unions of four upazilas under three districts that are small to understand variations in the dimension of impacts in the varied geographic context of waterlogged areas. Data collection was done through DeSHARI Consortium partner NGOs operating in the field. Day-long orientation of the field assessors was conducted. Main limitation of the study is that it concentrated on the impact of waterlogging in 2015; it did not include analysis of trend over a longer period of time. In addition, data collection instruments were not piloted or field test before application, mainly because of time constraint.

Waterlogging has become a protracted crisis in the southwest region of Bangladesh. Communities in the region began to feel its impacts in 2000. Initially its magnitude was low. Over the years, it increased its intensity and scale; and in 2011 it became most severe. In that year some 181,759 households from 9 upazilas under Jessore, Khulna and Satkhira were affected by waterlogging. Fields homesteads and houses were inundated. They had lost standing crops in the fields, domestic birds and animals. Their houses and households assets were damaged. Many of them were forced to leave their houses and stay in temporary shelters. Also, the affected households had lost their employments and incomes. Severe waterlogging continued to occur during the subsequent years. In 2015, it inundated homestead of estimated 50.5 percent households of the affected villages in Keshabpur, Paikgacha, Tala and Satkhira Sadar upazilas. Severity of waterlogging in 2015 was such that even at the end of November some 15.5 continue to suffer due inundated homestead.

The chief need of the affected people is to have a dry homestead where they could reestablish their house, kitchen, latrine and tube-wells, as well; they could keep their cattle and poultry. They need income and reliable employment. Also, they need to use their fields and re-establish crop cycle. Accordingly, resilience building intervention may aim to-

- Address waterlogging through activities that aim to ensure inundation free homestead for the vulnerable households. The key activities could be:
 - Community-led works to elevate homesteads
 - Seed or saplings for growing vegetable and fruit trees
 - Water supply system in the community
 - Establish hygienic latrines



- Promote aquaculture in waterlogging prone crop fields to enable the local farmers make the best of constraints. The key activities are:
 - Mobilize deviant farmers for fish culture
 - Demonstration of small pond based fish culture
 - Applied research on land and water based farming
 - Learning diffusion
- Promote recovery of livelihood through activities that enable household to diversify asset and income. The key activities are:
 - Provision of input support

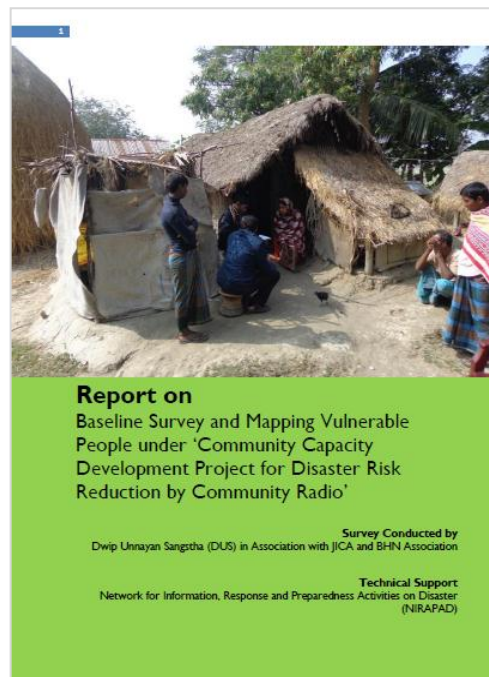
2.2. Technical Support in DRR and CCA

NIRAPAD provides technical support to members as well as other organization and individuals. Technical support includes 1) Evaluation, 2) Baseline survey, 3) Development of DRR/CCA policy, strategy and Standard Operational Procedures (SOP), 4) Development of training module and IEC material, and 5) Conduction of training and Learning Event. In the year of 2015, NIRAPAD has provided several numbers of technical supports to different national and international organisations which are described below.

Prepare a Report on Baseline Survey and Mapping Vulnerable People under Community Capacity Development Project for Disaster Risk Reduction by Community Radio

To initiate the project intervention titled ‘Community Capacity Development Project for Disaster Risk Reduction by Community Radio’, DUS planned to assess the current status of the community through a survey. Purpose of this survey was to identify the vulnerable households within the communities and determine their knowledge and practices about accessing disaster risk reduction information. Specific objectives of the survey are to generate a list of the vulnerable households who will be directly benefitted from this project, and develop baseline (socio-economic, exposure to disaster and vulnerability and access to information and services) for project intervention. In this initiative, NIRAPAD prepared the survey report for DUS.

Methodology included secondary documents review and household questionnaire survey. Secondary documents have been reviewed that comprised project documents, demographic and population information of the study areas and geographic information of the survey areas. To collect primary data from the community, household questionnaire survey was carried out over 29 days, from 03 to 31 January 2015. The sampled household number was 6,000 from 27 designated vulnerable locations of eight unions (Burir Char, Char Ishwar, Char King, Jahajmara, Nalchira, Sonadia, Sukhchar and Tamaruddin) under Hatiya Upazila.



The study showed that livelihood options of the respondents were fragile and susceptible to natural hazards (e.g. cyclone, tidal surge, high tide floods and riverbank erosion) and their incomes were low and uncertain. A very small proportion of the respondents receive supports from safety-net services. Moreover, their access to public broadcast of cyclone warning is limited. Cyclone warning and disaster risk reduction information through radio broadcast would immensely benefit them and improve their disaster resilience. Understandably, to that they would require some technical as well as some material supports. However, such investment is more likely to achieve significant and sustainable improvements in the communities to cope with disasters that they face recurrently.

Conduct Evaluation of Disaster Preparedness & Mitigation: Build Safe and Resilient Communities’ Project of Plan International Bangladesh

Plan International Bangladesh commissioned NIRAPAD for final evaluation of the project titled ‘Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation (DPM): build safe and resilient communities’ to gain a reflection of the project’s performance in respect to relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact. The objective of the evaluation was to assess the performance of the project according to outcome indicators and criteria – Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Accountability, Sustainability and Impact as well as lessons learned and suggested recommendation for Plan International Bangladesh for further program development and implementation.

The evaluation entailed assessment of the project’s performance according to outcome indicators. It required firstly, review and analysis of project documents. Secondly, it needed accumulation of primary data from the field locations. The data were both qualitative and quantitative in nature. For the qualitative aspects, primary data have been collected through Interactive Group Discussions (IGDs) with beneficiaries (children, youth and adults) and consultation meeting with project staffs as well as Key Informants Interviews (KIIs) or small group meetings with SMC, UDMC and GoB personnel. For quantitative data collection, total 628 questionnaire surveys were conducted in two wards of Dhaka South City Corporation (Ward 49 and Ward 54) and six unions of Barguna Sadar upazila (Aylapatakata, Badorkhali, Burirchar, Dhalua, M. Baliatoli and Noltona). Thirdly, it required processing and analysis of data collected from the field locations. These analyses contributed to develop evaluation report.

To a large extent, the objectives of the project have been achieved. An analysis of primary and secondary data shows that there is a significant increase in knowledge and awareness of children and adults on climate change and its implications in the wellbeing of children. Also, evidences available at the ground clearly demonstrate that the children and adult



Photo 4: Children mobilized UP member to re-excavate Gilatola canal which is now a permanent source of water for the villagers for farming

have transformed their changed knowledge and attitude into practice. 4CA approach empowered children and youth to facilitate the planning and implementing DRR and CCA activities.

Overall the project is worth for replication; however, for that the study suggests to consider some activities that included setting project objectives focusing on promoting children as change agent; engaging with local community at the onset of interventions to reach to a common understanding of non-negotiable issues and advocacy elements; establishing mechanism for feeding learning from the interventions into the global knowledge; ensuring sustainability of children’s participation in DRR and CCA activities in the community; strengthen linkages with duty bearers (LGIs and concerned line departments) to mainstream garbage management; continue to raise community’s safety awareness through public education; support school mobilize resources for implementing school safety plan; promote youth-led multiple options for ensuring access to safe water in the community, livelihood options e.g. rural off-farm economy, techniques for more climate resilient agriculture (saline tolerant variety, floating gardening/farming etc.), renewable energy (solar panel for school solution, bio-gas plant), organic farming, environmental sustainable entrepreneurs and businesses, community forestry management (tree plantation and mangrove protection).

Conduct Baseline Study of BRUP Project for CARE Bangladesh

At the beginning of the project titled “Building Resilience of the Urban Poor (BRUP)”, CARE Bangladesh commissioned NIRAPAD to conduct a baseline study to understand the current situation of the project area. Overall objective of the baseline study was to assess the current situation of the project area where CARE and project partner Village Education Resource Center (VERC) in two wards (Tongi and Konabari) of Gazipur City Corporation. Also, a detailed Monitoring and Evaluation framework will be developed based on the outcome of this study.

It required firstly, review and analysis of project documents e.g. proposal, logframe, inception and other reports; and documents relating to context and area profile e.g. national policies and plan, statistics and census reports. Secondly, it needed accumulation of primary data from the field location. The data were both qualitative and quantitative in nature. Therefore, the baseline required a range of methods for data collection that include Interactive Group Discussion (IGD), workshop, key informant interviews, and questionnaire survey. Thirdly, it required processing and analysis of data collected from the field location. These analyses contributed to develop the baseline report and M&E framework.



Wellbeing Analysis document prepared for the BRUP project was used as the basic household database for the study. The target population of this research was the poor and extreme poor households defined by the wellbeing analysis document. The study made use of probability sampling in order to select the respondents for investigation. This helped us to obtain the necessary data for the baseline with minimum cost and time. This study used structured questionnaires as a quantitative tool for collecting data. The sample size was estimated to ensure the representation of all the indicators set forth in the ToR. The sample size was determined using the following formula considering 95 percent confidence level with 5 percent level of errors. Considering this, 318 households were selected from the studied communities.

The targeted communities are located in urban areas that featured with high density of human-created structure and population. The economy of this urban area is characterized by high degree of commercialization. Compared to their rural counterpart, communities in the project areas are culturally more diverse and socially more fragmented and the general characteristics of their social capitals are weak and ambiguous. People living there are exposed to a range of environmental and health hazards because, in majority cases, shelters of the poor households in the targeted communities are on polluted land close to industrial facilities, waste dumps or contaminated watercourses. Fire and water logging are the major concern for them. Access of the poor and extreme poor households in the targeted communities to water, sanitation, medical care, shelter and power supply is distinctly limited as well.

Therefore, efforts for enhancing disaster resilience for the communities should focus on raising communities' risk awareness through different groups, improving service availability (through strengthening the service providers, as well, promoting consumer's rights), establishing garbage disposal system (through infrastructure construction and improving communities' garbage disposal practices) and promoting protection against gender based violence (through mass education and setting up community based mechanism).

Develop Three Training Modules and Materials for CDC, WDMC and Children Forum under BRUP Project of CARE Bangladesh

CARE Bangladesh engaged NIRAPAD to provide technical support to develop training modules and BCC materials for different groups under BRUP project. Objective of the assignment was to design, consult, draft and finalize training materials (modules or other materials as appropriate) for different groups under BRUP project that would help BRUP team to work with and accordingly develop capacity on different issues for building resilient community in urban context. Under this assignment, NIRAPAD conducted training need assessment and developed three modules on capacity building for three groups (i.e. Community Development Committee – CDC, Ward Disaster Management Committee – WDMC and Children Forum). Also, NIRAPAD team developed communication materials to facilitate regular meeting for CDC, WDMC and Children Forum. Furthermore, NIRAPAD facilitated training session for CDC and WDMC members along with BRUP staff and develop a core trainer group (from staff) on module of Children Forum who will later be able to confidently facilitate the training to targeted group.



Photo 7: Training Session Conducted by NIRAPAD

The assignment required firstly, review and analysis of documents relating to project e.g. proposal, socio-economic survey of Gazipur slum done by CARE Bangladesh, baseline report, guidelines and relevant DRM documents developed by different organizations, urban partners, Department of Disaster Management (DDM) e.g. study report, module, manual, handbook, flipcharts etc. Secondly it needed needs assessment that will focus on the MUST know issues for building urban resilience and women empowerment for resilient community. It was done through consultation with key stakeholders. Thirdly it required development of training materials, facilitator’s guideline, learning session materials and awareness materials for specific groups (as appropriate). The materials were developed based on agreed issues and contents. After field test, the materials were finalized.

The training materials have been designed to help these groups for understanding their roles and responsibilities clearly and do that effectively. Considering training needs of each target group, customized training materials and facilitator’s guide have been developed for each group. These materials cover all essential steps, which are most important for increasing knowledge and changing attitude and practice of the target groups towards building resilience to disaster. To ensure that training materials to be practical and relevant to the urban context accordingly, the newly developed materials have been used in the training before finalization. Incorporating feedback of the training participants, the materials have been finalized.

2.3. Partnership and Collaboration

NIRAPAD has robust collaboration and partnership with Government, different humanitarian organisations and individuals. In this process, NIRAPAD helps others for value addition in disaster management sector through promoting and demonstrating global standards, supporting event management and project implementation. In the year 2015, NIRAPAD has conducted the following activities in respect to partnership and collaboration.

Provide Support to Sphere Community in Bangladesh

NIRAPAD was involved in mobilizing Sphere community in Bangladesh. NIRAPAD regularly participated in meetings of Shpere Community in Bangladesh. As well, it provided support to implement the initiatives taken by Sphere Community. NIRAPAD performed as working group member for conducting refresher training on Shpere Standards.

Promote Core Humanitarian Standard

As a Full Member of CHS Alliance, NIRAPAD promotes quality and accountability in disaster management. In the year 2015, NIRAPAD along with ActionAid Bangladesh and Coast Trust translated the Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and Accountability into Bangla. As well, NIRAPAD provided support to promote quality and accountability in Bangladesh.

Contribute to World Humanitarian Summit (WHS)

To contribute to the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) to be held in 2016, NIRAPAD conducted a study with the support of member organisations. It aims to help to map out the key challenges in the humanitarian response in Bangladesh. The study focuses on natural and man-made hazards but does not include conflicts. The key findings of the study were shared in a national workshop and finally the report was sent to WHS authorities.

Participate in the Knowledge Fair on DRR

NIRAPAD participated in a two-day long national knowledge fair titled 'Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in Bangladesh' held at the Milky Auditorium of the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) on 25-26 November 2015 . Purpose of the fair was to showcase current disaster management initiatives in Bangladesh. The event took place in line with the impending completion of the 11-year Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme. Disaster Management and Relief Minister Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya inaugurated the fair.



Photo 8: NIRAPAD displayed its knowledge products in the fair

3. Financial Statements

Financial Statements are enclosed in Annex-A.

Annex-A: Financial Statements



NETWORK FOR INFORMATION, RESPONSE AND
PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES ON DISASTER (NIRAPAD)

GENERAL FUND

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2015

PARTICULARS	NOTE	31-12-2015	31-12-2014
PROPERTIES AND ASSETS:			
FIXED ASSETS	4.00	237,726	238,344
FIXED DEPOSIT RECEIPT - FDR	5.00	2,247,245	2,088,556
CURRENT ASSETS:			
Accounts Receivable	6.00	2,283,763	75,316
Advance Income Tax at Source	7.00	1,068,960	934,122
Security Money (House Rent)		66,000	66,000
Other Project Loan		30,000	30,000
Cash and Bank Balances	8.00	549,577	1,397,663
Total Taka:		6,483,271	4,830,001
FUND AND LIABILITIES:			
FUND ACCOUNT	9.00	3,525,639	3,605,867
CURRENT LIABILITIES:			
Accounts Payable	10.00	1,218,946	290,012
Prov. for VAT on Consultancy Fee	11.00	398,575	0
Prov. for Income Tax	12.00	1,340,111	934,122
Total Taka:		6,483,271	4,830,001

1.00 Figures have been rounded off to the nearest taka.

2.00 Annexed notes form part of the accounts.


(Mr. Sirajul Islam)
 Finance Secretary


(Mr. Nasir Uddin Ahmed)
 Chairperson

Signed in terms of our separate report of even date annexed.

Dated, Dhaka
20 April 2016


(Toha Khan Zaman & Co.)
 Chartered Accountants





NETWORK FOR INFORMATION, RESPONSE AND
PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES ON DISASTER (NIRAPAD)
GENERAL FUND

STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

PARTICULARS	Note	2015	2014
INCOME:			
Members Annual Subscription		108,000	138,000
Interest on FDR		177,583	216,656
Others Income	13.00	6,834	24,500
Income from Consultancy Work	14.00	5,049,158	6,655,268
Total Taka:		5,341,575	7,034,424
EXPENDITURE:			
Expenses against Consultancy Work	15.00	2,408,872	2,971,771
Administrative Expenses	16.00	2,038,491	3,284,237
VAT on Consultancy Fee	17.00	568,017	455,657
VAT on Conference Hall Rent		434	0
Sub-Total:		5,015,814	6,711,665
Prov. for Income Tax	12.00	405,989	0
Total Taka:		5,421,803	6,711,665
Surplus/(Deficit) of Income over expenditure transfer to Fund Account	9.00	(80,228)	322,759

1.00 Figures have been rounded off to the nearest taka.


2.00 Annexed notes form part of the accounts.


(Mr. Sirajul Islam)
Finance Secretary


(Mr. Nasir Uddin Ahmed)
Chairperson

Signed in terms of our separate report of even date annexed.

Dated, Dhaka
20 April 2016


(Toha Khan Zaman & Co.)
Chartered Accountants

