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ENHANCING RESILIENCE (ER) TO DISASTERS AND THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE Project.

The Project was implemented Southern part of Bangladesh. I worked to the project as a monitoring and Evaluation officer



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Keyword:

Resilience, Food security, Climate Change, Disaster, ER(Enhance Resilience), NGO(Non-Government Organization), Government of Bangladesh, PRA(Participatory Rural Appraisal),M&E(Monitoring & Evaluation), Vulnerable, Community infrastructure, IGA(Income Generating Activities), CFT(Cubic Feet),Sqm(Square Meter),Km(Kilometer), \$(Canadian Dollar), Extremely Poor,

Abstract

The paper explores community resilience and food security status due to the implementation of Enhance Resilience(ER) activities in the project area Patuakhali, Bagerhat and the Bhola district in the Southern part of Bangladesh. This main objective of the project was enhancing resilience at vulnerable community due to climate change and disasters. To ensure community resilience and food security, the project involved infrastructure development, training on disasters, climate change, gender, and IGA activities. The ER project is selected on the basis of community participation. This paper is prepared on the basis of monitoring finding of the project. The qualitative data was collected randomly from project area during implementation of the project and quantitative data was obtained from census data from the progress report, field visit report, M&E report, and Annual report of ER project. Based on the findings, challenges, and recommendations were explored. The project created infrastructure such as local roads (109.57 Km), ponds (43618 Sqm), canals (59.44 Km), dams (243.73 km), and raised grounds (16289 Sqm), that helps the community with communication, drinking water and fishing, and protection from floods and cyclones. Beneficiaries received of 2 kg of wheat/rice, 0.2 Kg of pulse, 0.1 liter of vegetable oil and \$0.90 per working day per person. During the training period one person received 22.5 kg of wheat/rice and \$10.5 per month to ensure food security for their family. In IGA investment, one of the extremely poor beneficiaries received \$ 165, one time grant, and tri-monthly, between \$16 and \$ 1333 up to one year. There were several major challenge of the project: firstly, bureaucratic deadlock of government officials that hampered the approval of the scheme in due time, that lead to lack of quality and inability to finish in time; secondly, about seventy percent of women beneficiaries had difficulties to doing 53 CFT of earth work; thirdly, saline water hampers the agriculture production which creates food insecurity; fourthly, limited carrying budget of goods from district/sub-district to remote areas hampered the activities' timeline; finally, drinking water crises required management by the women. To meet the challenges the following initiatives were created: approving the project in timely fashion; limiting earth work to 30 -35 CFT per day for women; the government of Bangladesh take initiative to stop saline water fishing; and regular monitoring to help to implement the project in due time while maintaining quality of work.