

# StP EMERGENCY RESPONSE MONITOR: ISSUE II

## Bangladesh



The North-Eastern part of Bangladesh (Haor) has been affected by early **flash floods** since April due to heavy rain and the onrush of upstream water, which resulted in severe crop damage and threatened food security. The flash floods hit the districts of Sylhet, Sunamganj, Habiganj, Moulvibazar, Netrokona, Kishoreganj and Brahmanbaria.

### The response:

- Under the umbrella of the National Alliance of Humanitarian Actors, Bangladesh (NAHAB), a platform of L/NNGOs facilitated by StP, **Ready Response Teams (RRT)** from 5 partners were mobilized to conduct a rapid needs assessment in 2 districts.

- Following this **3 partners** implemented a response (DAM, Caritas and DSK).
- The response ran **from 1<sup>st</sup> June to 15<sup>th</sup> August** with total realised funding of **€190,184** from **Oxfam's Haor Response Grant Facility (HRGF)**.
- **Multi-Purpose Cash Grants (MCG)** to 3,500 households in 60 villages provided.
- During beneficiary selection there was an emphasis on inclusion (people with disabilities, elderly people, chronically sick people, lactating mothers and pregnant women)
- At all stages of the selection process, the community was engaged. A community feedback/complaint mechanism was set up as well.
- StP also provided an additional £5,000 to contribute to NAHAB's operations cost



Photo Credit: Christian Aid Bangladesh

## Pakistan

Chachran Sharif is a town in Punjab state which is highly vulnerable to floods and drought. The recent construction work of a bridge in the area increased the risk of flooding as it disturbed the natural flow of water. On 7<sup>th</sup> August, when the Pakistan Meteorological Department issued a warning that water levels in the Indus River were expected to rise StP partner REEDS began its preparedness work. Flooding occurred in Chachran Sharif between 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> August.



Photo credit: REEDS

### The response:

- StP partner **Rural Education and Economic Development Society (REEDS)** supported the formation of the **Chachran Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** in January 2017 and training thereafter.
- CERTs made announcements through loud speakers and organized communities to evacuate while **Rescue 1122** facilitated communities to evacuate through the provision of boats, life-saving jackets and other equipment.
- **CERTs** assisted the Government Health department to establish a health camp to provide first aid and other related services.
- Together with **REEDS** and the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA),

**CERTs** also conducted an initial needs assessment of 63 affected families.

- **REEDS** assisted the PHED (Public Health Engineering Department) to provide WASH facilities to the designated communities
- DDMA monitored the whole situation through the control room established by REEDS in close coordination with Metrological department and after 4 days when Met department gave the clear indication that the areas are safer, DDMA and REEDS with the support of CERTs organized the return of the affected families to their villages.

## DRC

For decades, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has struggled with one of the world's most relentless emergencies, in its eastern provinces. But now the central Kasai region is facing an acute crisis: in less than a year, escalating **conflict between the Congolese authorities and a local militia** known as Kamwina Nsapu, has **displaced 1.4 million people**.

In eastern DRC, the areas of **Rutshuru, Lubero, Masisi, Beni and Walikale** are particularly affected by violence. In Rutshuru alone around 50,000 newly IDPs were registered due to the ongoing inter-community conflict between Hutu and Nande populations (UNICEF).

StP partners have been working across the country to assist displaced communities.

### The response:

- **Caritas Congo** has been involved in the need assessment of IDPs in Kananga/Kasai in August.
- **CODEVAH** supported Christian Aid and COPROMOR to carry out needs assessments to define a response that could be undertaken for targeted affected communities in Kasai.
- **Caritas Goma** is implementing a one year project (Jan-Dec 2017) with funding from the WFP. This response aims to provide 5,000 tons of food to the displaced 50,050 households living within the HCR camp in

Masisi –Center in Rutshuru, Walikale, Masisi and Nyirangongo

- With funding from Caritas Luxembourg, **Caritas Goma** implemented another 3 month project (March-June 2017) of \$176,000 distributing essential household items to 1,000 households that were victims of armed conflicts in Rutshuru.

## Ethiopia

As Ethiopia is still recovering from the devastating impact of the 2016 drought, induced by El Niño, the spring rains failed its southern and eastern regions. The drought conditions worsened, causing disease outbreaks, large scale loss of livelihood assets and displacement.



Photo credit: Vittorio Infante, ActionAid

### The response:

- StP partner **HUNDEE** secured USD \$ 410,000 from Kindernothilfe (KNH) to provide emergency food assistance to 10,000 people in 4 Kebeles of two woredas in the Borena Zone.
- **HUNDEE** also actively engaged in multi-agency, multi sectoral post-harvest assessments and participated in a monthly disaster management task force meetings held at the local level.
- 4 local partners (**CIFA, SOS-SAHEL, HUNDEE and AFD**) have been providing support to the **Borena Zone Disaster Management Task Force** in the form of training on LEGS, technical and logistical support for ongoing humanitarian needs assessment and hosting monthly taskforce meetings.

The **StP team** has supported the drought emergency response by providing technical training and mentoring on rapid needs assessment and proposal development in addition to financing the rapid needs assessment process.

## Kenya



Photo credit: Caritas Isiolo

**Drought** conditions still persist in Kenya. StP partners have been working in three counties – Isiolo, Samburu and West Pokot – to help affected populations.

### The response:

- **Caritas Isiolo** in partnership with other agencies is aiding **2,340 households**. Some interventions include: rehabilitation of key strategic water sources, provision of lifesaving livestock feeds and distribution of relief food.
- **Caritas Isiolo** also supported County Steering Group (CSG) meetings to review drought response at County and Sub County levels.
- **Caritas Maralal** is implementing a drought response targeting 461 households drawn from the most vulnerable groups. Their work involves rehabilitating strategic boreholes and water points, providing training on water resource management, and conducting peace building and conflict resolution

activities.

- **Caritas Maralal** is also a key member of the Samburu County steering group and sub-county steering groups and has been instrumental in ensuring that the special groups of beneficiaries are targeted in the various relief interventions
- **Sikom Peace Network, Komesi Women Network and Semikorie Disaster Management Committee** worked in partnership with ActionAid Kenya to implement emergency response activities between June and August 2017 focusing on Women's Protection in Emergencies. **Sikom** facilitated a three-day training for local women to enable them to identify and champion the needs of vulnerable women, the elderly and children during needs assessment and lifesaving interventions.



Photo credit: Caritas Isiolo

Kenya held **General Elections** on 8<sup>th</sup> August. As part of the establishment of eight humanitarian coordination hubs, Kenya Red Cross Lodwar Branch was tasked as a lead responding organization across the county Hub.

A Kenya Elections subcommittee of Kenya INGOs forum was also formed. Chaired by ActionAid Kenya with participation from StP consortium members Christian Aid and CAFOD, and linking with StP partner NNGOs **Caritas Isiolo and PACIDA**.

### The response:

- Between 5<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> July, a rapid analysis was undertaken using World Vision's GECARR (Good Enough Context Analysis for Rapid Response). In Marsabit and Isiolo, the GECARR analysis was led by StP partners **PACIDA and Caritas Isiolo**.
- The **StP Kenya Program Manager** was also appointed by ActionAid Kenya to support the national co-ordination of the Election Context analysis. With this report the sub-committee was able to activate the START Crisis Fund alert.
- Thirty volunteers referred to as the Red Cross Action team were mobilized and ready for deployment if need be. This team was initiated and supported through StP funding.
- Peace meetings were conducted in counties like Garissa, Marsabit and Isiolo where the political competition was high
- An initiative to support the reporting of electoral related violence to women was broadened as part of the START fund initiative.
- The Kenya Red Cross Team was also critical in sharing updates from different hubs given their national coverage and partnership within the STP Consortium.

The outcome of the 2017 Presidential Elections was disputed with the Supreme Court nullifying its validity on 1<sup>st</sup> September and ordering a new round of elections within 60 days. The polls will take place on 26<sup>th</sup> October, amid increased tensions. The INGOs forum and NNGO partners will continue to strengthen advocacy interventions on peaceful, credible, and transparent election process.