TOWARDS URBAN RESILIENCE

THE RISKS

In Bangladesh, 55.18 million, 34.28% of the population live in urban areas (World Bank, 2015). With the existing growth rate of 2.8%, the country’s urban population will reach 79 million or 42% of the population by 2035. They live with various hazards both at home and workplace. The level of risk is further exacerbated by growing trend of climate migrants, gender-based violence, limited access to basic services and weak implementation of legislative provisions related to resilience. All these factors combine to make the urban poor increasingly vulnerable to shocks and stresses. The urban poor are most exposed to and least able to cope with these risks.

BUILDING RESILIENCE OF THE URBAN POOR (BRUP) PROJECT
OUR APPROACHES TO THE PROBLEM

Enhanced resilience of 6 urban communities and 3 institutions reaching 8,000 individuals who can prepare for, mitigate, respond to, and recover from shocks and stresses.

BUILDING RESILIENCE OF THE URBAN POOR (BRUP) PROJECT IS CONTRIBUTING TO COMMUNITIES’ EFFORTS TO INCREASE RESILIENCE BY INTEGRATING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION (CCA) AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR) KEEPING WOMEN AT THE CENTER. THE PROJECT IS BEING IMPLEMENTED IN GAZIPUR CITY CORPORATION

Absorptive Capacity
Adaptive Capacity
Transformative Capacity

*Fire Service and Civil Defence
*Gazipur City Corporation
*Ward Disaster Management Committee
WHAT WE DO?

Enhancing Household and Community Resilience

- Community analyzes risk and resources and develops ‘Risk Reduction Action Plan’ for implementation
- Community-led garbage management and safe water supply system
- Improved community capacity in disaster management in collaboration with public and private agencies and access to resources
- Women and girls promote resilience practices through learning and sharing sessions
- Financial inclusion and alternative livelihood support to the most vulnerable women
- Forum Theater and mock drill for mass awareness
- Develop Urban Community Volunteers (boys+girls) to serve community and extended force of FSCD.
- Capacity building of community and targeted institutions
- Strengthening Ward Disaster Management Committee at ward and City Corporation level.

Empowering women

Strengthening Institutional Resilience
ACHIEVEMENTS
'In different dimensions of resilience'

Disaster Management Committees scaled from 02 to all ALL 57 wards of Gazipur City Corporation

234 (84 Female) trained volunteers work as ‘first line defense’ in the communities, and acting as extended force of fire service.

1,570 people enjoy safer access to their habitat as a result of staircases built through collective approach

113 Fire Service and Civil Defence staff are enabled with advanced training and Search & Rescue equipment

644 people have access to Gender equitable hygiene and sanitation facilities.

30,950 people benefit from street solar lights which has reduced incidences of Gender Based Violence

3190 people have access to affordable safe water system which also has hydrant point inbuilt for fighting fire

780 people got rid of water-logging and associated health risks through drain renovation

Environmental Resilience

Institutional Resilience

Social Resilience

Physical Resilience

Economic Resilience

6,004 people are brought under the community-based garbage management system

124 households practice climate-smart technologies (Improved cook stoves, solar bottle light, transparent roofing sheet).

92.6% targeted households have formal savings as contingency

90.6% households adopted preparedness measures against fire, earthquake and water logging

79.4% women are engaged in alternative income generating activities stabilizing incomes for families

All 06 communities are working together; helping each other in time of disasters
Women are talking and being listened to

“During risk analysis I and other women, were asked separately to list community hazards. Earthquakes and fire are dangerous; but poor street lighting and insecurity are just as dangerous for us women and girls. That is how darkness was included as hazard for the first time.”
-Rokeya Begum, CDC Secretary

Leadership

"In the recent fire incident, we called the Fire Service, while the community volunteers responded immediately with water, sand and wet cloths, and initiating evacuation and rescue. Afterwards, the CDC mobilized communities to provide emergency food and shelter. Later, we contacted district relief office, getting their relief response for the first time in our community."
-Sufia Begum, CDC Chairperson

Access to Financial Services

"Fire burned my everything, except the 10,000 taka I had saved at the bank, which was my sole support for recovery."
-Ritu, Fire affected, Uttar Tetultola.
OVERCOMING IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

- **Lack of cohesion**: Social mobilization using participatory tools with deliberate engagement of women and girls helps building trust amongst communities.

- **Threats of eviction due to land tenure pattern**: Pro-poor advocacy with Govt. for better housing and other critical physical facilities; however more needs to be done.

- **Inconsistency in leadership role hampers regular activities**: Develop working relationship with Chief Executive at City Corporation and elected representatives at ward level.

- **Urban people are time-poor**: Adjust meeting schedules to community’s needs.
Hosting visitors from home and abroad. Approximately 60 international & 40 national professionals from Govt., I/NGO, donors, academicians visited the project

Arranging advocacy events jointly with relevant platforms/networks

Collaboration & Synergies with CARE B projects and other 4 Country offices

Participating in global accelerators competitions within CARE & beyond

MINDSHARE AND INSPIRING OTHERS THROUGH
Participatory community planning having interface with institutional planning process at different levels is critical to enhance resilience.

Contexts and Conditions of the slums built on public and private land are not same which requires different approaches and strategies.

Systematic engagement of women in various platforms is essential to build cohesion in urban setting.

Separating men, women is critical during prioritization of hazards and development of gender equitable plan.

Solid community mobilization is critical for building resilience; requires more time and contextualized tools for urban.

Engagement of relevant stakeholders is pre-requisite to build urban resilience.

“Women are not just helpless victims; They are a strong force for resilience”

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