

Building Inclusive Resilient Communities

Issue 01
March 2016

“Perspective of South Asian Experiences and Knowledge”



Inside

(Contents from Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan)

- DRR & Humanitarian Programme updates
- Success stories
- Major upcoming events

Bhesh Parajuli/HelpAge International

HelpAge

International

Programme updates

Formation and Activation of Union Disaster Management Committees (UDMCs) in Bangladesh



The Union Disaster Management Committee (UDMC), lowest administrative tier of Bangladesh is responsible to deal with union level disaster related issues. As per government policy, there should be 05 UDMCs of 05 working Unions. Through the project it was identified that four of them are mostly inactive and another one was newly formed. No meetings have been held after formation of the UDMCs. Most of the members of these committee are inactive and not aware of their roles & responsibilities. As per policy, UDMC has

a vital role to support the community through emergency response and reduce the risk of disaster through different programmes. In this situation, Inclusive Disaster Resilience (IDR) project team of two local implementing partners namely BITA and Bahubrihy have started to make the UDMCs functional/active. As part of the process, 05 initial meetings have been held with 05 UDMCs. Members of Community Based Organization (CBO) have also participated in this meeting. Representatives of older people from CBO were invited to participate in the meeting.

Some useful and need-based decisions were taken in this meeting e.g. from now onward,

- UDMC will organize bi-monthly meetings on a regular basis;
- UDMC members will work actively as per their roles and responsibilities;
- UDMC and CBO members agreed to work together on age inclusive disaster risk reduction of the community;
- OP will be given priority by the UDMC to provide support at the time of disaster.

The major achievement of the meeting was inclusion of 15 elderly CBO members at the existing Union Disaster management Committees. Besides, Project Officers of Partner NGOs were also included in UDMCs as a NGO representative.

After initial meetings, follow-up meeting will be carried out in order to keep UDMCs active as the institute can make effective response and contribution in age inclusive Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) as well as implementation of community action plan.

Community Disaster Risk Assessment by Older People in Bangladesh

One of the outcomes of the IDR project is to include community and older people in assessing community risks and developing Risk Reduction Action Plan of the community. In each of the 50 communities of the IDR project, Community Risk Assessments (CRAs) were prepared considering types of hazards, its risks and causes and ways to overcome the risks. Capacities of the community people as well as older people were also identified in the CRAs. Fifty Risk Reduction Action Plans (RRAP) were also developed in 50

communities under the project. CRAs and RRAPs were done following the guidelines of Bangladesh government. Finally, 05 CRAs and RRAPs were developed through compiling CRAs and RRAPs for 5 working Unions. Facilitation of the CRAs and RRAPs at community level was started in June 2015 immediate after completion of trainings on the CRA and RRAP. Project Volunteers, CBO members and the members of Union Disaster Management Committees (UDMCs) were trained on CRA and RRAP who

played lead role in conducting CRAs and RRAPs at the community level. Community people along with OPs from different ages and classes actively contributed in developing CRAs and RRAPs. In total, 657 community people participated in developing CRAs and RRAPs including 281 Ops. The major achievement of this intervention was participation of older people in developing CRAs and RRAPs which contributed in proper identification of their risks and capacities, and reflection of their needs in community action plan.

Training on Helping Older People in Emergencies in Nepal

A training on Helping Older People in Emergencies (HOPE) was held from 25-26 February 2016 at Bandipur of Tanahu district in Nepal. The aim of the training was to sensitise district level stakeholders/humanitarian actors on ageing and DRR/emergency response issues and enhance their capacity to integrate OP in humanitarian programming.

Representatives from different government's departments and non-government agencies such as, District Disaster Response Committee, District Development Committee, Public Health, Women and Children Development Office, District Chapter of Senior Citizens Federation, Security bodies, Nepal Red Cross Society, Secretaries of Village

Development Committee, Journalists, NGO Federation and others have participated the training.

The Local Development Officer, Chief Guest of the opening session, stated *"Older People have different capacities and knowledge. We should not take their knowledge as the source of information but it needs to be transferred and utilised for disaster risk reduction, mitigation work and developing resilience strategy of the communities."*

The training concluded with commitments and Personal Action Plan of the participants to integrate older people's issues in their respective organisation's disaster response programmes.



Participants during HOPE Simulation

Contingency Materials Handed to Local Disaster Risk Management Committees (LDRMC) and Older People Associations (OPAs)



Older people in Kailali, Nepal receiving blanket from FAYA Nepal

In February 2016, Forum for Awareness and Youth Activity (FAYA) Nepal, a local implementing partner of HelpAge International Nepal at Bardiya and Kailali districts handed over preparedness and rescue equipment including assistive devices to older people in 10 villages. The devices include: shovel (plastic handle), rope (roll), buckets (10 liters), helmets, life jacket, emergency torch lights, head light, night vision jacket, safety boots, hearing devices and wheel chair.

Similarly, FAYA also supported 303 cold wave affected older people in 10 villages of Bardiya and Kailali districts with warm blankets. Among the beneficiaries 136 were men and rest 167 women.

ज्येष्ठ नागरिकको ज्ञान, सीप, अनुभव र क्षमताको पहिचान गरौं । विपद जोखिम व्यवस्थापनमा उहाँहरूको योगदानको कदर गरौं ।



स्थानीय विपद जोखिम व्यवस्थापनमा ज्येष्ठ नागरिकहरूको सहभागिता सुनिश्चित किन ?

- ज्येष्ठ नागरिकहरू स्थानीय विपद प्रकोप र जोखिमका विवरणहरू र यिनो ब्युत्पत्तिकारक रणनीतिबारे महत्वपूर्ण सुचनाका स्रोत हुन ।
- ज्येष्ठ नागरिकहरू आफ्नो जीवनका अनुभवहरूलाई सहभागी हुन प्रेरित गर्दा विपद जोखिम व्यवस्थापनमा बढी क्षमता दिन सक्छन ।
- बिरामी अस्वस्थता जेष्ठ नागरिकहरूलाई आफ्नो रक्षामा जोड्छन हुन हरे पनि जनसंख्या संरक्षणका लागि कार्य गर्न सक्छन ।
- ज्येष्ठ नागरिकहरू विपद जोखिम व्यवस्थापनमा परिचयको प्रभावकारी माध्यमहरू हुन ।

"स्थानीय विपद जोखिम व्यवस्थापन योजना निर्माणमा ज्येष्ठ नागरिकको सहभागिता सुनिश्चित गरौं"



The Information, Educational and Communication (IEC) materials were developed with an objective of increasing awareness on the inclusion of Older People in disaster risk reduction. The above poster focuses on vulnerabilities of Older People in during emergencies and need to include them in risk assessment process. The materials were published and disseminated among community people and concerned stakeholders including government, NGO and civil societies.

High resolution poster can be accessed [HERE](#).

Building Disaster Resilience in Pakistan

HelpAge International in Pakistan has defined its key role to enhance technical capacity on ageing to other stakeholders according to their capacity and needs. The most successful achievement of this is developing technical partnership with other mainstreamed stakeholders on disaster risk reduction work. HelpAge has extended its outreach to different organisations through consortium approach under this role.

HelpAge has become a technical partner with Concern, ACTED, IRC and WHH for Building Disaster Resilience in Pakistan (BDRP) which is a five year programme aiming at implementing community based disaster risk management interventions in 32 districts across Pakistan. These 32 districts are declared as 'high risk' zone by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). The total value of the program is GBP 60 million with GBP 220,000 for HelpAge.



Nejiam Un Nisar/HelpAge International in Pakistan

Older women and men with youth identifying local level measures that can minimise effects of any disaster in during a CBDRM training in district Muzaffargarh- Punjab Pakistan.

The bid by our consortium is successful and currently Concern Worldwide is working on developing operational matters with DFID. This project will be implemented using payment by result (PBR) model by DFID, where HelpAge

will be supporting technically all consortium and local partners on 'Inclusive' Community Based Disaster Risk Management-CBDRM. This will be a first ever experience for HelpAge.

More programme updates from Pakistan

HelpAge International is technical partner of IRC and ACTED in a four year project funded by DFID in complex emergencies. The program is titled as RELIEF. In this programme, HelpAge International is responsible for ensuring age and disability inclusion in humanitarian response interventions being implemented through ACTED, IRC and their local implementation partners.

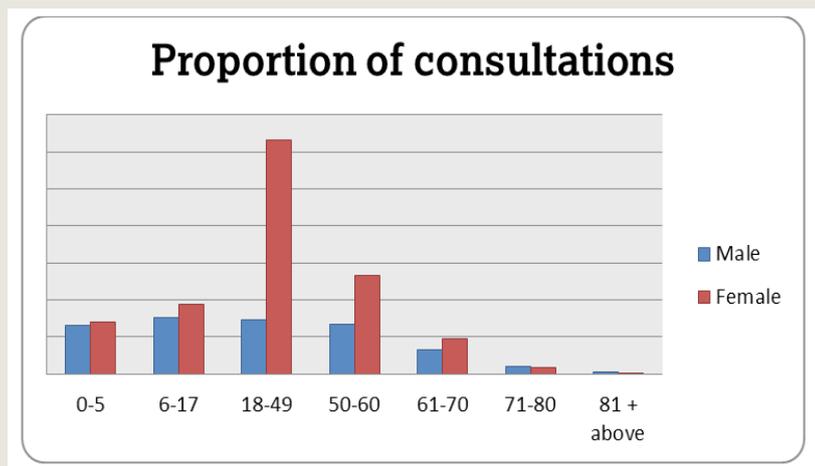
HelpAge International is implementing DFID and USAID funded "Age and Disability Capacity Programme- ADCAP" in Pakistan. In this regard, HelpAge is supporting two humanitarian partners Islamic Relief and Concern Worldwide with mainstreaming ageing and disability in their humanitarian programmes. The learnings from ADCAP are also being utilised to mainstream ageing and disability in DFID funded RELIEF program me as well.

Success stories

Emergency Relief to the Earthquake Affected

District Chitral of Khyber Pakhtonkhwa province-Pakistan was hit by earthquake twice in 2015. HelpAge International implemented health projects in most remote union councils of the district in response to the earthquake. Project activities consist of mobile health camps and mobility aids distribution, primarily wheelchairs to Person with Disabilities (PWDs). The project was delivered with the primary aim to increase accessibility of the beneficiaries so that they have better access to the services provided by other agencies and governments. Such aspects were undermined by most of the humanitarian agencies responding to the situation.

The district has strict traditional norms and values for women- they can hardly get to interact with external environment. As a result of HelpAge's intervention women's proportion was observed high in overall beneficiary statistics as given in the graph.



Towards a Resilience: A Case Study of Hom Prasad Gautam



“My income will increase as I start to sell them in future and it will help me to be more resilient in coming days”

- Hom Prasad Gautam

Mr. Hom Prasad Gautam, a resident of Dhangadhi sub-metropolitan city-18 is very busy with his daily routines these days and he is very satisfied with that. He used to think he couldn't do anything as he becomes old. His regular participation in the meetings and activities organised by FAYA Nepal under the IDR project has changed his thoughts and views towards age.

In the beginning, Gautam started attending a monthly meeting of Older People Association (OPA) where they could share their experiences on how to be organised and advocate for their own rights and entitlements. As he started participating in more programmes organised by FAYA Nepal with support from HelpAge International Nepal, Gautam realised vulnerabilities of

older people in relation to disaster situations.

Gautam highlighted older people are the source of knowledge; they have long experiences on local hazards and environment, and can contribute in risk assessment process and develop Local Disaster Risk Management Plan for the community. He mentioned, “We know better how many disasters occurred in in the past in our community and how people cope with the situations.”

Gautam also participated in skill development trainings provided by HelpAge. He believes having skills of various livelihood activities will help enhance his living standard. Recently, he started rearing goats with a loan from OPA. HelpAge started the concept of Revolving Fund in OPAs by providing seed grant; such grants are mobilised among OPA members as loan. “My income will increase as I start to sell them in future and it will help me to be more resilient in coming days”, expressed Gautam.

He also stated that, younger ones need to develop culture to respect older people as they are the knowledge source and can contribute a lot to the society. He is very thankful to HelpAge for all the support.

Major upcoming events

Bangladesh

- Age Inclusive PVCA Validation Workshop at Union and Upazila level
- Workshop to help CBO and UDMC to present their RRAP at Union Council to incorporate in Annual Development Plan.
- Community Volunteer Development on Age Inclusive DRR and Emergency Response
- Training on Leadership and Community Management Skill for selected CBO representatives.
- HOPE Training at Union and Upazila Level

Nepal

- HOPE training in 3 other IDR project districts from last week of March 2016.
- ADCAP and ALERT Training in Kathmandu, Nepal in April 2016. (The training will be facilitated by emergency team of HelpAge London).

Pakistan

- National Consultative Workshop on Localising DRR Global Frameworks in Pakistan, 17 March 2016.

HelpAge International helps older people claim their rights, challenge discrimination and overcome poverty, so that they can lead dignified, secure, active and healthy lives.

Building Inclusive Resilient Communities: Perspective of South Asian Experiences and Knowledge is published with the aim to improve knowledge management system on DRR and Humanitarian across South Asian countries.

HelpAge International South Asia Regional Office

Jawalakhel (behind Standard Chartered Bank), Lalitpur, Nepal
Tel: +(977) 1 555 3589,

+(977) 555 1388,

POB: 21299,

Fax: +(977) 1 5545 623

www.helpage.org

Building Inclusive Resilient Communities: Perspective of South Asian Experiences and Knowledge is a bi-monthly publication of HelpAge International South Asia Regional Office

Follow us



www.facebook.com/HelpAgeInternational



twitter.com/HelpAge

HelpAge

International