



Disaster Risk Reduction Action Plan



Conducted by
Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme (CDMP II)
Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief

Department of Women Affairs
Ministry of Women and Children Affairs





**Report on
Draft Disaster Risk Reduction Action Plan for
Department of Women Affairs**

Conducted by:

**Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme (CDMP II)
Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Bangladesh has made commendable progress in ensuring equity for women and maintained a steady pace in human development over last two decades according to the UNDP's Human Development Report. Despite global economic recessions, in last five years the economy of the country has grown at a rate over 6%. Child mortality has fallen substantially and gender parity in primary and secondary education has been achieved.

Bangladesh has achieved marvelous success defying frequent devastations from multiple hazards like floods, cyclones, droughts, salinity, waterlogging, river and coastal erosion, hailstorms, tornados, tidal surge, earthquake, landslides, tsunami and fire. There are also the human induced disasters like road accidents, fire, ferry tragedies and building collapse. Disaster scenario in Bangladesh is dominated by climate change induced hazards. Bangladesh leads the Top 10 countries in the Asia-Pacific region based on absolute physical exposure for floods; 5th for storms; and 8th for earthquakes.

Though Bangladesh has made noteworthy progress in many areas of human development, the combination of high disaster events as well as increasing human vulnerability resulting from demographic pressure, poverty, social inequality and coupled with the apprehended climate change indicate that Bangladesh is, currently, at high risk to large scale disasters with consequent impact on shelter, food, health and survival. It is estimated that the direct annual cost to the national economy of natural disasters over the last 10 years (damage and lost production) is estimated to be between 0.5% and 1% of GDP.

In any disasters women and children are mostly vulnerable. A large number women and children are at risk of different types of natural hazards across the country. Though there is no gender-disaggregated information regarding loss of lives and properties is available in Bangladesh, Ikeda (1995) ob-

served that in the 1991 cyclone disaster killed 140,000 in Bangladesh, 90 per cent of victims were women and girls. Besides, it is observed in GAR 11 that the gender gap in achieving primary education widens significantly after extensive disaster events. This might completely diminish county's hard earned success in the achievement of gender parity in primary and secondary education. Bangladesh, therefore, needs to address the pressures of environmental degradation, adverse impacts of climate change and risk of disaster.

In dealing with disasters and the risks arising from climate change, the women have different capacities to reduce risk and adapt and come up in political decision-making and have different legal rights. In the National Women Development Policy of Bangladesh, very comprehensive policy directives are given to cover all the issues related to all stages (pre, during and after) of disaster management, and, could therefore be viewed as appropriate and effective steps taken by the Government of Bangladesh for Disaster Risk Reduction of women in Bangladesh.

In Bangladesh 'Empowerment' has been identified as the basic goal for advancement of the women in 6th Five Year Plan. Department of Women Affairs' (DWA), under the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, plan to achieve this goal is mainly centered on activities targeted to socio-economic development of the women viz. poverty alleviation, creation of employment and social safety-net programs. Despite having clear policy guidelines regarding disaster management, given in the National Women Development Policy, 2011, disaster risk reduction or in a broader sense, disaster management related activities have been found missing in the programmes and activities of DWA.

Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction initiatives is one of the strategic goals of the National Policy for Disaster Management of Bangladesh. Preparation of DRR incorporated sectoral development plans by the different agencies of the government, therefore, has been identified as one of the key interventions necessary to achieve this goal. As an appropriate and timely step to achieve this goal Department of Women Affairs has taken ini-

tiatives to prepare and implement Disaster Risk Reduction Action Plan with technical and financial assistance from CDMP. Basic objective of the current initiative of is to support the integration of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation mechanisms into the regular programmes, projects and activities of DWA.

DRRAP for DWA has been prepared considering the working areas of DWA and also taking into account the vulnerability of women and children due to different disasters across the country. International and national drivers, which include various international and national policies, protocols, framework conventions, laws and local and regional initiatives had been instrumental in the preparation of DRRAP for DWA.

The **vision** for the DRRAP of DWA would be, by 2018, DWA has a functionally efficient disaster risk management system in place that would work for the substantial reduction of disaster risks of resources, existing service delivery system and beneficiaries of DWA from different natural and anthropogenic hazards to an acceptable level.

The **mission** that would be accomplished by DWA through proper implementation of DRRAP is to have a planning and operation system in place, where DRR efforts are incorporated for achieving efficiency and sustainability of its mandated DRR efforts, and, to have a reduced risk environment for its beneficiaries due to their enhanced resilience to disaster risks.

Fundamental **objectives** of DRRAP for DWA are to

- align the strategic direction of disaster risk reduction initiatives of DWA with national priorities and international commitments;
- articulate the vision and goals for DRR activities of DWA;
- outline the strategic direction and priorities to guide the design and implementation of DRR policies and programs of DWA;
- create a cohesive and well coordinated programming framework incorporating various stakeholders; and to
- ensure that DRR efforts are comprehensive and all-hazards focused.

For the medium term, the DRRAP is a 5 year programme (2013-2018) to build the capacity and resilience of DWA and its beneficiaries to meet the challenges posed by different disasters. The programme is structured around four pillars viz,

- Institutionalization
- Knowledge Management and Capacity Building
- Increasing Resilience
- Advocacy and Awareness Building.

Following are the sub-programmes under different pillar to be accomplished for the implementation of the Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction effort by DWA:

Pillar1: Institutionalization

1. Adopt new or modify existing Charter of Duties of DWA to support DRR activities that encourage compliance with DRR efforts of National and International drivers.
2. Update National Plan of Action for Women Development, 1999 including DRR activities in line with the policy guidance given in NWDP, 2011.
3. Promote incentives for undertaking risk reduction and mitigation activities by partner organizations.
4. Allocate sufficient financial resources for all level offices to conduct DRR activities.
5. DRR activities should be properly planned and included in the annual work plan of DWA.
6. Recognizing the importance and specificity of local risk patterns and trends, decentralize responsibilities and resources for DRR activities to relevant district and Upazila level.
7. Systematically involve community in DRR activities of DWA, including in the process of decision-making, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation;
8. Establish networking with local, national and international organization involved in DRR activities.

Pillar 2: Knowledge Management and Capacity Building

1. Identify, assess and monitor disaster vulnerabilities and risks of different resources, such as, existing office buildings, training centers, safe homes, day care centers, equipments etc.
2. Identify, assess and monitor disaster vulnerabilities and risks of operations of DWA
3. Identify, assess and monitor disaster vulnerabilities and risks of the beneficiaries in terms their lives and livelihoods and also their engagements in the different activities of DWA.
4. Establish link with the scientists, DRM professionals, research organizations for accessing latest developments in this branch of knowledge.
5. Establish mechanism to disseminate new information regarding DRR among the staff members.
6. Establish a research analysis wing with qualified professional to undertake in-house research.
7. Create a separate set –up in the organizational structure of DWA dedicated for DRR activities.
8. Establish a modern robust High frequency communication system across all offices of the department.
9. Increase management capacity of the staff through regular management trainings along with trainings on disaster management.
10. Trainings on basic life survival skills such as swimming, first aid, fire extinguishing should be given to all staff members, members of CBO/NGOs/Shomitees and beneficiaries.
11. Create necessary logistic support for support for facilitating DRR activities both for headquarters and local offices.

Pillar 3: Increasing Resilience

1. Strengthen existing social safety net, micro credit and other credit programmes being implemented by DWA.
2. Strengthen activities of protecting women against violence during disaster time and its aftermath.

3. In most of the cases scarcity of pure drinking water becomes major problem for the women, small scale water supply projects can be undertaken for lessening water crisis during disaster and its aftermath.
4. Promote techniques for climate change adaptation in agriculture and small business which are major income generating occupation of the beneficiaries.
5. Promote diversified income options for populations in high-risk areas to reduce their vulnerability to hazards.
6. Promoting the development of financial risk-sharing mechanisms such as disaster insurance.
7. Reconstruction of vulnerable physical infrastructures of DWA.
8. Construction of new buildings according to prescribed safety standards

Pillar 4: Advocacy and Awareness Building

1. Conduct advocacy to relevant government agencies so that they plan, design and construct urgently needed new infrastructure (e.g., cyclone shelters, coastal and river embankments and water supply systems; urban drainage systems, river erosion control works, flood shelters) considering the requirements of the women;
2. Publishing IEC materials on DRRM for different disasters, for CBO/NGOs/Shomitees and beneficiaries
3. Strengthening WID activities for ensuring gender auditing and compliance in all development efforts designed for disaster risk reduction.
4. Promote the inclusion of disaster risk reduction knowledge in relevant sections of school curricula.
5. Design and implement awareness raising campaign on disaster risks and about 'dos and don'ts' during disaster.
6. Promoting the engagement of the media to stimulate a culture of disaster resilience and strong community involvement.

DRR interventions generally possess three distinct components. These are: Defining and redefining risk environment, managing risk environment and responding to the threat environment. First two types of activities of the necessitate interventions before the occurrence of any disaster (pre-disaster) situation while the third one is mainly during disaster and post disaster interventions. Both structural and non-structural measures are required for proper integration of DRR activities in the functions of DWA. Review of the charter of duties of DWA and its annual progress reports reveals that many of the activities performed by DWA have resemblance with DRR interventions. With some reservation about the effectiveness and sustainability of some of these activities in case of any major disaster event, these interventions are definitely reducing disaster vulnerability of the beneficiaries and enhancing their resilience in socio-economic terms. Existing charter of duties of DWA limits its ability to implement large-scale physical interventions for disaster risk reduction. Nevertheless, small-scale physical interventions along with remodeled current development interventions could be very effective in reducing disaster risk of its beneficiaries and the agency itself.

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ACCRONYMS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
BBS	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
BCCSAP	Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan
BMD	Bangladesh Meteorological Department
CBO	Community Based Organization
CCDMC	City Corporation Disaster Management Committee
CDMP	Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme
CP	Contingency Plan
CPPIB	Cyclone Preparedness Program Implementation Board
CSDDWS	Committee for Speedy Dissemination of Disaster Related Warning/ Signals
DC	Deputy Commissioner
DDMC	District Disaster Management Committee
DGoF	Directorate General of Food
DMB	Disaster Management Bureau
DMC	Disaster Management Committee
DMTATF	Disaster Management Training and Public Awareness Building Task Force
DoRR	Directorate of Relief and Rehabilitation
DPHE	Department of Public Health and Engineering
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DRRAP	Disaster Risk Reduction Action Plan
DWA	Department of Women’s Affairs
FPOCG	Focal Point Operation Coordination Group of Disaster Management
GAR11	Global Assessment Report, 2011
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HDR	Human Development Reports
HFA	Hyogo Framework for Action
HIV/AIDS	Human immunodeficiency virus infection / acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
IMDMCC	Inter-Ministerial Disaster Management Coordination Committee
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IPCC	Inter governmental Panel on Climate Change
ISDR	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

LRP	Land Reclamation Programme
MES	Meghna Estuary Study
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MoFDM	Ministry of Food and Disaster Management
MoWCA	Ministry of Women and Children Affairs
NDMAC	National Disaster Management Advisory Committee
NDMC	National Disaster Management Council
NGO	Non-Government Organizations
NGOCC	NGO Coordination Committee on Disaster Management
NPDM	National Plan for Disaster Management
NWDP	National Women Development Policy
PDMC	Pourashava Disaster Management Committee
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SFA	SAARC Framework for Action
SOD	Standing Orders on Disasters
UDMC	Union Disaster Management Committee
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
UNISDR	United Nations International Strategy
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNO	Upazila Nirbahi Officer
UZDMC	Upazila Disaster Management Committee
VGD	Vulnerable Group Development
WID	Women in Development

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Capacity	<p>A combination of all the strengths and resources available within a community, society or organization that can reduce the level of risk, or the effects of a disaster.</p> <p><i>Capacity may include physical, institutional, social or economic means as well as skilled personal or collective attributes such as leadership and management. Capacity may also be described as capability.</i></p>
Capacity building	<p>Efforts aimed to develop human skills or societal infrastructures within a community or organization needed to reduce the level of risk.</p> <p><i>In extended understanding, capacity building also includes development of institutional, financial, political and other resources, such as technology at different levels and sectors of the society.</i></p>
Disaster	<p>A serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society causing widespread human, material, economic or environmental losses which exceed the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources.</p> <p><i>A disaster is a function of the risk process. It results from the combination of hazards, conditions of vulnerability and insufficient capacity or measures to reduce the potential negative consequences of risk.</i></p>
Disaster risk management	<p>The systematic process of using administrative decisions, organization, operational skills and capacities to implement policies, strategies and coping capacities of the society and communities to lessen the impacts of natural hazards and related environmental and technological disasters. This comprises all forms of activities, including structural and non-structural measures to avoid (prevention) or to limit (mitigation</p>

and preparedness) adverse effects of hazards.

Disaster risk reduction (disaster reduction)

The conceptual framework of elements considered with the possibilities to minimize vulnerabilities and disaster risks throughout a society, to avoid (prevention) or to limit (mitigation and preparedness) the adverse impacts of hazards, within the broad context of sustainable development.

The disaster risk reduction framework is composed of the following fields of action:

- *Risk awareness and assessment including hazard analysis and vulnerability/capacity analysis;*
- *Knowledge development including education, training, research and information;*
- *Public commitment and institutional frameworks, including organisational, policy, legislation and community action;*
- *Application of measures including environmental management, land-use and urban planning, protection of critical facilities, application of science and technology, partnership and networking, and financial instruments;*
- *Early warning systems including forecasting, dissemination of warnings, preparedness measures and reaction capacities.*

Earthquake

An earthquake is a series of vibrations on the earth's surface caused by the generation of elastic (seismic) waves due to sudden rupture within the earth during release of accumulated strain energy.

Emergency management

The organization and management of resources and responsibilities for dealing with all aspects of emergencies, in particularly preparedness, response and rehabilitation.

Emergency management involves plans, structures

and arrangements established to engage the normal endeavours of government, voluntary and private agencies in a comprehensive and coordinated way to respond to the whole spectrum of emergency needs. This is also known as disaster management.

Emergency Preparedness	Consists of all activities taken in anticipation of a crisis to expedite effective emergency response. This includes contingency planning, but is not limited to it: it also covers stockpiling, the creation and management of standby capacities and training staff and partners in emergency response.
First Responder	The term 'first responder' refers to those agencies/ individuals who in the early stages of an incident are responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property, evidence, and the environment, including emergency response providers as well as emergency management, public health, clinical care, public works, and other skilled support personnel (such as equipment operators) that provide immediate support services during prevention, response, and recovery operations.
Hazard	<p>A potentially damaging physical event, phenomenon or human activity that may cause the loss of life or injury, property damage, social and economic disruption or environmental degradation.</p> <p><i>Hazards can include latent conditions that may represent future threats and can have different origins: natural (geological, hydro-meteorological and biological) or induced by human processes (environmental degradation and technological hazards). Hazards can be single, sequential or combined in their origin and effects. Each hazard is characterized by its location, intensity, frequency and probability.</i></p>
Hazard analysis	Identification, studies and monitoring of any hazard to determine its potential, origin, characteristics and

	behaviour.
Mitigation	Structural and non-structural measures undertaken to limit the adverse impact of natural hazards, environmental degradation and technological hazards.
Monga	Unemployment leading to seasonal hunger.
Natural hazards	<p>Natural processes or phenomena occurring in the biosphere that may constitute a damaging event.</p> <p><i>Natural hazards can be classified by origin namely: geological, hydro-meteorological or biological. Hazardous events can vary in magnitude or intensity, frequency, duration, area of extent, speed of onset, spatial dispersion and temporal spacing.</i></p>
Preparedness	Activities and measures taken in advance to ensure effective response to the impact of hazards, including the issuance of timely and effective early warnings and the temporary evacuation of people and property from threatened locations.
Prevention	<p>Activities to provide outright avoidance of the adverse impact of hazards and means to minimize related environmental, technological and biological disasters.</p> <p><i>Depending on social and technical feasibility and cost/benefit considerations, investing in preventive measures is justified in areas frequently affected by disasters. In the context of public awareness and education, related to disaster risk reduction changing attitudes and behaviour contribute to promoting a "culture of prevention".</i></p>
Recovery	Decisions and actions taken after a disaster with a view to restoring or improving the pre-disaster living conditions of the stricken community, while encouraging and facilitating necessary adjustments to re-

duce disaster risk.

Recovery (rehabilitation and reconstruction) affords an opportunity to develop and apply disaster risk reduction measures.

Relief / response	The provision of assistance or intervention during or immediately after a disaster to meet the life preservation and basic subsistence needs of those people affected. It can be of an immediate, short-term, or protracted duration.
Resilience / resilient	The capacity of a system, community or society potentially exposed to hazards to adapt, by resisting or changing in order to reach and maintain an acceptable level of functioning and structure. This is determined by the degree to which the social system is capable of organizing itself to increase its capacity for learning from past disasters for better future protection and to improve risk reduction measures.
Risk	<p>The probability of harmful consequences, or expected losses (deaths, injuries, property, livelihoods, economic activity disrupted or environment damaged) resulting from interactions between natural or human-induced hazards and vulnerable conditions.</p> <p><i>Conventionally risk is expressed by the notation: Risk = Hazards x Vulnerability. Some disciplines also include the concept of exposure to refer particularly to the physical aspects of vulnerability. Beyond expressing a possibility of physical harm, it is crucial to recognize that risks are inherent or can be created or exist within social systems. It is important to consider the social contexts in which risks occur and that people therefore do not necessarily share the same perceptions of risk and their underlying causes.</i></p>
Risk assessment/analysis	A methodology to determine the nature and extent of risk by analyzing potential hazards and evaluating existing conditions of vulnerability that could pose a

potential threat or harm to people, property, livelihoods and the environment on which they depend.

The process of conducting a risk assessment is based on a review of both the technical features of hazards such as their location, intensity, frequency and probability; and also the analysis of the physical, social, economic and environmental dimensions of vulnerability and exposure, while taking particular account of the coping capabilities pertinent to the risk scenarios.

Seismic Hazard

Seismic hazard in the context of engineering design is defined as the predicted level of ground acceleration which would be exceeded with 10% probability at the site under construction due to occurrence of earthquake anywhere in the region, in the next 50 years.

Sustainable development

Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It contains within it two key concepts: the concept of "needs", in particular the essential needs of the world's poor, to which overriding priority should be given; and the idea of limitations imposed by the state of technology and social organization on the environment's ability to meet present and the future needs.

Sustainable development is based on socio-cultural development, political stability and decorum, economic growth and ecosystem protection, which all relate to disaster risk reduction.

Vulnerability

The conditions determined by physical, social, economic and environmental factors or processes, which increase the susceptibility of a community to the impact of hazards.

For positive factors, which increase the ability of people to cope with hazards, see definition of capacity.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 CONTEXT

Bangladesh has made commendable progress in ensuring equity for women and maintained a steady pace in human development over last two decades according to the UNDP's Human Development Report. The HDR 2011 results for Gender Equity are especially encouraging for Bangladesh. New maternal mortality figures have led to a transformative change in the Gender Inequality Index, which improved by some 25% in a single year¹. This puts the country at the 5th (fifth) position among the Low Human Development countries. The remarkable progress that Bangladesh has made in the Gender Inequality Index shows strong long term commitment to women's empowerment, and, is specifically underpinned by accelerated progress towards the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) on maternal mortality.

Despite global economic recessions, in last five years the economy of the country has grown at a rate over 6%. The national poverty headcount rate in Bangladesh has declined to 31.5 percent in 2010 from 40 percent in 2005 according to the 2010 HIES of BBS², and the country's Human Development Index improved, between 1980 and 2011, from 0.303 to 0.500, an increase of 65.0 per cent or average annual increase of about 1.6 percent,³ child mortality has fallen substantially and gender parity in primary and secondary education has been achieved.

Globally in 2009, only 20 percent of countries reported substantial achievement integrating gender into disaster risk reduction, with no im-

¹ UNDP, 2011

² BBS, 2012

³ UNDP, 2012

provement two years later⁴. In Bangladesh ‘Empowerment’ has been identified as the basic goal for the advancement of women in 6th Five Year Plan⁵. DWA’s plan to achieve this goal is mainly centered on activities targeted to socio-economic development of women. Gender-Disaster nexus in women advancement has been largely over looked in the Plan.

Bangladesh has achieved marvelous success defying frequent devastations from multiple hazards like floods, cyclones, droughts, salinity, water logging, river and coastal erosion, hailstorms, tornados, tidal surge, earthquake, landslides, tsunami and fire. Particularly, other than regular flooding, which has traditionally been beneficial in Bangladesh, low frequency but high magnitude floods have devastating impacts on livelihoods and the economy. Besides, the country remains as one of the worst sufferers of cyclone casualties in the world. Riverbank erosion causes the loss of productive land areas annually. Droughts are also the common occurrences resulting in less or no yield of crops. Because of the high vulnerability and occurrences of the worst sufferings, Bangladesh is currently ranked as the most climate vulnerable country in the world⁶. According to the projection of IPCC, both the frequency and intensity of cyclones in the Bay of Bengal are likely to increase and the depth and spatial extent of flooding in the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna Basin are likely to alter because of climate change.⁷ This has significant implications across all sectors (such as agriculture, housing, transport) and consequently on economic development and poverty. Additionally, the likely consequences of sea level rise can cause economic losses of an unprecedented magnitude in low lying Bangladesh.

Disaster scenario in Bangladesh is dominated by climate change induced hazards. Bangladesh leads the Top 10 countries in the Asia-Pacific region based on absolute physical exposure for floods; 5th for storms and 8th for earthquakes⁸.

⁴ UNISDR, 2011

⁵ Planning Commission, 2012

⁶ IPCC, 2007

⁷ IPCC, 2007

⁸ UN-ESCAP, 2010

It is a fact that during the recent past, no major earthquakes has occurred in Bangladesh, or within its neighborhood but records indicates that, during the past few hundred years there have been several significant earthquakes recorded within Bangladesh. Reliable historical data for seismic activity affecting Bangladesh is available only for the last 450 years⁹. Recently developed earthquake catalogue for Bangladesh and surrounding areas shows 1200 earthquakes with magnitude (Ms) of 4.0 have occurred between 1885 and 1995, within a 200 km radius of Bangladesh¹⁰.

There are also the human induced disasters like road accidents, fire, ferry tragedies and building collapse. Repeated Building collapse in Dhaka reflects our increasing urban vulnerability.

Though Bangladesh has made noteworthy progress in many areas of human development, the combination of high disaster events as well as increasing human vulnerability resulting from demographic pressure, poverty, social inequality and coupled with the apprehended climate change indicate that Bangladesh is, currently, at high risk to large scale disasters with consequent impact on shelter, food, health and survival. It is estimated that the direct annual cost to the national economy of natural disasters over the last 10 years (damage and lost production) is estimated to be between 0.5% and 1% of GDP¹¹.

In any disasters women and children are mostly vulnerable. A large number women and children are at risk of different types of natural hazards across the country. Though there is no gender-disaggregated information regarding loss of lives and properties is available in Bangladesh, Ikeda (1995) observed that in the 1991 cyclone disaster killed 140,000 in Bangladesh, 90 per cent of victims were women and girls¹². Besides, it is observed in GAR 11 that the gender gap in achieving primary education widens significantly after extensive disaster events¹³. This might completely diminish county's hard earned success in the achievement of gender parity in primary and

⁹ Gupta *et. al.*, 1986

¹⁰ Sharfuddin, 2001

¹¹ MoEF 2008

¹² Ikeda, 1995

¹³ UNISDR, 2011

secondary education. Therefore, Bangladesh needs to address the pressures of environmental degradation, adverse impacts of climate change and risk of disaster.

In dealing with disasters and the risks arising from climate change, the women have different capacities to reduce risk and adapt and come up in political decision-making and legal rights¹⁴.

Disasters often kill more women than men, but organizations under time pressure tend to overlook gender-specific needs and capacities¹⁵. However, in the National Women Development Policy of Bangladesh¹⁶ very comprehensive policy directives are given to cover all the issues related to all stages of (pre, during and after) disaster management and could, therefore, be viewed as one of the appropriate and effective steps towards gender sensitive Disaster Risk Reduction initiatives in Bangladesh.

Under the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Department of Women's Affairs has been carrying out various activities viz., poverty alleviation, creation of employment and Social Safety-net programs to achieve the goal of overall sustainable development of women and children.

However, despite having clear policy guidelines regarding disaster management, given in the National Women Development Policy, 2011, disaster risk reduction or in a broader sense, disaster management related activities have been found missing in the programmes and activities of DWA. Besides, as stated in the GAR11, like many other countries of the world gender and public awareness issues are still not being adequately addressed¹⁷.

Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction initiatives is one of the strategic goals of the National Policy for Disaster Management of Bangladesh¹⁸. Preparation of DRR incorporated sectoral development plans by the different agencies of the government, therefore, has been identified as one of

¹⁴UNDP, 2010

¹⁵UN-ESCAP, 2010

¹⁶ MoWCA, 2011

¹⁷UNISDR, 2011

¹⁸MoFDM, 2008 b

the key interventions necessary to achieve this goal. The Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme (Phase II) of Ministry of Food and Disaster Management, of the government of People's Republic of Bangladesh aims to reduce Bangladesh's vulnerability to adverse natural and anthropogenic hazards and extreme events, including the devastating potential impacts of climate change. It will do so through risk management and mainstreaming. CDMP II aims to institutionalize the adoption of risk reduction approaches, not just in its host Ministry of Food and Disaster Management, but more broadly across thirteen key ministries and agencies including Department of Women Affairs. As an appropriate and timely step to achieve this goal, Department of Women Affairs has taken initiatives to prepare and implement Disaster Risk Reduction Action Plan with technical and financial assistance from CDMP. Basic objective of the current initiative of is to support the integration of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation mechanisms into the regular programmes, projects and activities of DWA.

1.2 HAZARDS IN BANGLADESH AND THEIR EFFECTS

Bangladesh is exposed to various natural hazards, viz., floods, river erosion, cyclones, droughts, tornadoes, cold waves, earthquakes, drainage congestion/ water logging, arsenic contamination, salinity intrusion etc. Besides, there are many anthropogenic hazards, viz., road accidents, fire, ferry tragedies and building collapse to which the country is also exposed. However, variations are observed in the nature of occurrence, season and spatial extent of effects of these hazards which have different policy and management implications.

Flood

Floods are annual phenomena with the most severe occurring during the months of July and August. Regular river floods affect 20% of the country increasing up to 68% in extreme years. The floods of 1988, 1998 and 2004 were particularly catastrophic, resulting in large-scale destruction and loss

of lives. Approximately 37%, 43%, 52% and 68% of the country is inundated with floods of return periods of 10, 20, 50 and 100 years respectively¹⁹. Four types of flooding occur in Bangladesh, and, these are:

- Flash floods caused by overflowing of hilly rivers of eastern and northern Bangladesh (in April-May and September-November);
- Rain floods caused by drainage congestion and heavy rains;
- Monsoon floods caused by major rivers usually in the monsoon (during June-September);
- Coastal floods caused by storm surges.

The 1988 flood affected about the two-third area of the country. The 1998 flood alone caused 1,100 deaths, rendered 30 million people homeless, damaged 500,000 homes and caused heavy loss to infrastructure. The 1998 flood lasted for 65 days from July 12 to September 14 and affected about 67% area of the country. This devastating flood had an enormous impact on the national economy, in addition to causing hardships for people, and disrupting livelihood systems in urban and rural areas.

In the year 2000, Bangladesh faced an unusual flood over its usually flood-free south western plain, which also caused loss of life and massive damage to property. In 2004, floods inundated about 38% of the country²⁰, 747 people lost their lives. About 2500 kilometres of embankment were damaged. Seventy four primary school buildings were washed away. This flood caused economic loss of about US\$ 2200 Million. Floods continue to be major hazards in Bangladesh.

Cyclones and Storm Surges

Tropical cyclones from the Bay of Bengal accompanied by storm surges are one of the major disasters in Bangladesh. The country is one of the worst sufferers of all cyclonic casualties in the world. The high number of casualties is due to the fact that cyclones are always associated with storm surges. Storm surge height in excess of 9m is not uncommon in this region. For ex-

¹⁹ MPO, 1986

²⁰ WARPO, 2005

ample, the 1876 cyclone had a surge height of 13.6 m, and in 1970, the height was 9.11 m.²¹ In fact, the 1970 Cyclone is the deadliest Cyclone that has hit Bangladesh coastline. With a wind-speed of about 224 km per hour and associated storm surge of 6.1 to 9.11m, it was responsible for death of about 300,000 people.

The cyclone sidr-2007 erupted from the Bay of Bengal packing winds of 240 kilometers per hour, swept through the southwestern coastal areas within 155-miles radius of its eye with heavy rain and storm surges reached up to 15-20 feet high in some places on 15th November'07.

The coastal districts of Barisal Patuakhali, Borguna, Pirojpur, Jhalkathi, Bhola, Bagerhat, Khula, Satkhira, Shariatpur, Chittagong and Cox's bazar and their offshore islands and chars received the major destructions by the SIDR. Out of 12 severely affected districts 4 are the worst affected, these are Bagerhat, Barguna, Perojpur and Patuakhali. 3,406 people died and, 55,282 were injured. Approximately 5, 64,967 houses were totally destroyed, and 9, 57,110 houses were partly damaged. It was also reported that 7, 43,321 acres of crop areas were fully, and 17, 30,316 acres were partly damaged by the SIDR'2007²².

Tornado

The two transitional periods between southwest and northeast monsoons over the Indian subcontinent are characterized by local severe storms. The transitional periods are usually referred to as pre-monsoon (March-May), and post-monsoon (October-November). It is the pre-monsoon period when most of the abnormal rainfall or drought conditions frequently occur in different parts of Bangladesh.

There are severe local seasonal storms, popularly known as Nor'westers (kalbaishakhi). Severe nor'westers are generally associated with tornadoes. Tornadoes are embedded within a mother thunder cloud and moves along the direction of the squall of the mother storm. The frequency of devastating nor'westers usually reaches the maximum in April, while a few occur in

²¹ WARPO, 2005

²² DMB,2008

May, and the minimum in March. Nor'westers and tornadoes are more frequent in the afternoon.

Wind speeds in nor'westers usually do not exceed 113-130 km/hr (70-80 miles/hr), though often their speeds exceed 162 km/hr (100 miles/hr). When the winds become whirling with funnel shaped clouds having a speed of several hundred kilometers or miles per hour, they are called tornadoes. Nor'westers brings the much needed pre-monsoon rain. They can also cause a lot of havoc and destruction. Tornadoes are suddenly formed, extremely localized in nature, and, of brief duration. Thus, it is very difficult to locate them or forecast their occurrence with the techniques available at present.

River Bank Erosion

It is an ongoing disaster, and there is no specific indicator to measure the extent of damage. River bank erosion causes huge loss of property throughout the year. IFRC estimates every year in Bangladesh about 10,00,000 people are affected by river erosion and 9,000 hectare cultivable lands is banished in river²³ Among these only a few affected people are able to find new shelters while others become homeless for an uncertain period.

Losses due to river erosion occur slowly and gradually. Though losses are slow and gradual, they are more destructive and far-reaching than other sudden and devastating calamities. The effects of river erosion are long term. It takes a few decades to make up the losses, which a family has incurred by river erosion. There has been little progress, however, for improving the lot of erosion affected people due to resource constraint.

Erosion processes are highly unpredictable, and not compensated by accretion. These processes also have dramatic consequences in the lives of people living in those areas. A study concluded in 1991 reported that: out of the 462 administrative units in the country, 100 were subject to some form of riverbank erosion, of which 35 were serious, and affected about 1 million

²³ IFRC,2001

people on a yearly basis. Around 10,000 hectares land is eroded by different rivers per year in Bangladesh.

Kurigram, Gaibandha, Jamalpur, Bogra, Sirajganj, Tangail, Pabna and Manikganj districts lie in the erosion prone area along Jamuna River. Along Padma River, there are the districts of Rajbari, Faridpur, Manikganj, Dhaka, Munshiganj, Shariatpur and Chandpur.

Earthquake

Bangladesh and the northeastern Indian states have long been one of the seismically active regions of the world and have experienced numerous large earthquakes during the past 200 years. The catastrophic earthquakes of 1762 and 1782 are believed to have been partially responsible for the diversion of the main flow of the Old Brahmaputra River from the west to present Jamuna River and main flow of the Arial Khan River to the present Padma channel. Reliable historical data for seismic activity affecting Bangladesh is available only for the last 450 years²⁴. Recently developed earthquake catalogue for Bangladesh and surrounding areas shows 1200 earthquakes with a magnitude (Ms) of 4.0 have occurred between 1885 and 1995, within a 200 km radius of Bangladesh.

Drought

Drought is an abnormal condition where there is a lack of sufficient water to meet the normal needs of agriculture, livestock, industry, or for human use. While generally associated with semi-arid or desert climates, droughts can also occur in areas that normally enjoy adequate rainfall, and moisture levels²⁵. It is the result of insufficient or no rainfall for an extended period and causes a considerable hydrological (water) imbalance.

Basically, there are three types of droughts in Bangladesh:

²⁴ Gupta *et. al.* 1986

²⁵ ADB, 1991

- Permanent drought characterizes regions with the driest climate, having sparse vegetation that is adapted to aridity. Agriculture cannot be practiced without irrigation.
- Seasonal drought occurs due to abnormal rainfall shortage in places where there are well-defined annual rainy and dry seasons.
- Unpredictable drought involves an abnormal rainfall failure, mostly in localized areas of humid and sub-humid climates.

Bangladesh faces unpredictable drought hazard in the dry monsoon due to inadequate and uneven rainfall. It varies from place to place; however, Northwestern region suffers most from the drought. As much as 17% of the Aman crops, the main paddy crops in the wet season, may be lost in a typical year due to drought.

Though this is an annual phenomenon, the last severe drought faced by Bangladesh was in 1994. In view of persistent food shortage, this is a catastrophe.

Drought affects not only the seasonal crops but also the fruit-bearing trees, forestry and the environment as a whole. Moreover, the crop environment during the monsoon (Kharif-II) season is not favourable for achieving full potential yields because of uneven distribution of rainfall, flooding etc.

Bangladesh is at higher risk from droughts. Between 1949 and 1991, 24 times droughts occurred in Bangladesh.

Arsenic Contamination

At present, arsenic contamination is considered to be a dangerous environmental threat and a serious health risk. It is identified as a public health emergency in Bangladesh.

There is no specific treatment for chronic arsenicosis other than ceasing further intake of arsenic contaminated water and raising awareness of the population about the problem.

The value (recommended limit) for arsenic in drinking water as per the guideline of the World Health Organization (WHO) is 10 mg/L while the national standard in most countries, including Bangladesh, is 50 mg/L. With varying levels of contamination from region to region, groundwater in 61 out of the 64 districts in Bangladesh is contaminated with arsenic.

According to a study conducted by the British Geological Survey and DPHE, Bangladesh, arsenic concentrations in the country range from less than 0.25 mg/L to more than 1600 mg/L²⁶. This study report estimates that out of the Bangladesh population of 125.5 million, up to 57 million drinks water that has an arsenic concentration greater than the WHO guideline value and up to 35 million drinks water that has concentrations in excess of the Bangladesh standard. The waters in the southwest and southeast parts of Bangladesh are highly contaminated with arsenic.

Salinity Intrusion

Saline water intrusion is mostly seasonal in Bangladesh; in winter months the saline front begins to penetrate inland, and the affected areas rise sharply from 10 percent in the monsoon to over 40 percent in the dry season.

Coastal districts such as Satkhira, Khulna, Bagerhat, Barguna, Patuakhali, and Barisal are victims of salinity intrusion. Agricultural production, fisheries, livestock, and mangrove forests are affected by higher salinity in the dry season. It is observed that dry flow trend is being declined as a result of which sea flow (saline water) is travelling far inside the country resulting in contamination both in surface and ground water.

²⁶ BGS and DPHE, 2001

Salinity data from Land Reclamation Programme (LRP) and Meghna Estuary Study (MES)²⁷ indicate an enormous seasonal effect due to the influence of huge fresh water discharge from the Lower Meghna River on the horizontal distribution of salinity in the estuary. This distribution is strongly influenced by the fresh water flow in the Lower Meghna River.

High salinity both in monsoon and dry season in the southwest corner and along the Pussur-Sibsa system of the area is associated with the decreasing upstream freshwater flow as well as silting of major channels²⁸.

Tsunami

Underwater strong earthquakes, volcanic eruption or other submarine landslide usually causes tsunamis. When earthquake occur offshore at subduction zones (places where a tectonic plate that carries an ocean is gradually slipping under a continental plate). Some tsunamis can be very large. In coastal areas their height can be as great as 30 feet or more (100 feet in extreme cases), and they can move inland several hundred feet.

A tsunami consists of a series of waves. Often the first wave may not be the largest. The danger from a tsunami can last for several hours after the arrival of the first wave. Tsunamis can move faster than a person can run. Tsunamis can occur at any time, day or night.

Although infrequent, tsunamis are among the most terrifying and complex physical phenomena, and have been responsible for great loss of life and extensive destruction to property. Because of their destructiveness, tsunamis have important impacts on the human, social, and economic sectors of societies.

Considering the state of tsunami vulnerability and potential seismic sources, Geological Survey of Bangladesh has divided the Bangladesh coastal belt into three zones;

²⁷ BWDB, 2000

²⁸ WARPO, 2005

- Tsunami Vulnerable Zone- I (Chittagong-Teknaf coastline) Most vulnerable.
- Tsunami Vulnerable Zone- II (Sundarban-Barisal coastline)– Moderately vulnerable.
- Tsunami Vulnerable Zone- III (Barisal-Sandwip estuarine coastline) – Low vulnerability.

Fire

Fire hazards occur frequently in Bangladesh. Fire causes huge loss of lives and properties every year. Although termed as ‘fire accident’, most fire events are far from being accidental. Indeed, most fires are preventable. Industrial units, particularly garments industry, produce deadliest of the fires. Tragically, factory fires are all too common in Bangladesh.

Fire incidents in the country are increasing at an alarming rate. In 2004 alone, a total of 7,140 fire incident occurred which caused damage to property worth more than BDT 200 crore²⁹.

Infrastructure Collapse

A nine-storied building housing a garments factory at Palashbari, Savar, Dhaka collapsed at around 1 am on 11 April 2005. It was a total structural failure³⁰. Local administration, especially the Fire Brigade and Bangladesh Army quickly rushed to the spot just after the collapse. NGOs, construction companies and other organizations joined later. 40-50 rescued alive during that night. Scores of people died. Incidents of infrastructure collapse are on the rise. Prevention and preparedness programmes are absolute necessity of the time.

Landslide

Landslide is a complex-disaster phenomenon that can be caused by earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, heavy rainfall (typhoons, hurricanes), sustained rainfall, heavy snowmelt, unregulated anthropogenic developments, mining, and others. In Bangladesh, landslide is mostly triggered by heavy rain-

²⁹ DMB, 2010 a

³⁰ DMB, 2010 a

fall. However, underlying causes of landslide include deforestation, hill cutting, unregulated development work, etc. Moreover, poverty and landlessness force poor people to live in the risky hill-slopes.

Large and small landslides occur almost every year in nearly all regions of the world. In the past, landslide was not considered a major hazard in Bangladesh. However, recently landslide has emerged as a major hazard, particularly after the Chittagong Landslide 2007. More than 120 people have been reported dead due to Chittagong Landslide³¹.

1.3 NATURE OF WOMEN'S VULNERABILITY TO DISASTERS

When a natural disaster strikes, Bangladeshi women are even more vulnerable because of traditional social, economic and cultural patterns which marginalize and discriminate them.

Increased violence against women is often a secondary effect of post disaster stress all over the world. Also, the poverty is overrepresented among children and women, particularly in female-headed households in Bangladesh, which makes children and women more vulnerable to natural disasters.

Since the roles and responsibilities of men and women are different due to patriarchal power relations and the unequal condition and position of women and their subordination in comparison to men do exist; their needs, level of risk, perception of risks, vulnerabilities and capacities are different. In the following sections, nature of vulnerability of women and children due to different natural hazards have been tried to explore.

In cyclone

Sexual abuse is one important reason for which women are mostly forced not to go to cyclone shelters during cyclones. Women report that there are cases of abortion and miscarriages in the cyclone shelter only because of the crowded condition.

³¹ DMB, 2010 a

Capacity to face the disasters becomes low because they lose their economic capability due to destruction of livelihood. As a result, food insecurity occurs, and most of the time women have to face the harsh effect of intra-household food insecurity. Women become socially insecure as they lose their houses. Young girls and women become more vulnerable when they are forced to live under the open sky.

Sanitation becomes a major problem and also tube wells are often damaged in cyclones. As a result, fetching water from a long distance and defecating in the nearby forest etc. lead women towards a vulnerable living condition in the post phases of cyclone hazard.

In water logging

Water logging compels women to stay in marooned conditions for several months in a year. Women of the waterlogged households face different problems than other women of the society. In rural areas in Bangladesh, most of the mud-built houses are destroyed in water logged condition. This leads to social vulnerability of women who have to take shelters on embankments.

In salinity

Since at some areas water sources in the neighborhood are all affected by high salinity, the women need to travel a long distance on foot every day in search of drinking water. This is almost the compulsory duty of women in the southwestern Bangladesh irrespective of their physical condition.

When they go out to collect water, women and adolescent girls are sometimes harassed by boys and men. The women and girls, therefore, feel uneasy and threatened while collecting water from distant sources.

Women suffer from various diseases in the long run for taking extra hurdle of work in their day life. The skin of adolescent girls becomes rough and un-

attractive due to the use of saline water³². Women and adolescent girls are affected by gynecological problems by using saline water during menstruation³³.

In drought

Lack of food security appears to be the major concern during droughts. However, the degree of vulnerability for women is much higher as they receive the least amount of food and there is strong deprivation for the women when it comes to intra-household food allocation³⁴. No wonder, women are generally malnourished. When such a malnourished girl is forced to have kids within her teen years, her reproductive health suffers severely.

Problem of drinking water becomes evident during this drought condition. In many areas tube wells can not support as the layer goes down. In drought condition, due to water stress women have to take the burden on their shoulder to collect safe drinking water from a long distance. Pregnant and lactating women also have to fetch water from a greater distance in the drought condition.

Sanitary hygiene is hampered due to unavailability of water, and the inevitable consequence is outbreaks of diseases like diarrhea, cholera and dysentery.

In Flood

Poor women find it extremely difficult to ensure food and drinking water security when they struggle to live in flooded condition. During flood people confront acute shortages of potable water and edible food stuff. In deeply flooded areas, young girls are reportedly scrounging for edible reeds and roots, while women of all ages travel long distances by boat or raft to fetch drinking water.

³² Abedin *et al.*, 2012

³³ Ahmed *et al.*, 2007

³⁴ Abdullah and Wheeler, 1985

Poor women often tend to collect relief if anything is in offer in the neighborhood. However, such an act on the part of a woman is not considered to be 'respectable' in social norms and those queuing for relief generally face hardships in post-flood normal life. Just to avoid such 'derogatory treatment' by others in society, the middle class sometimes accept whatever consequences of flood and do not take refuge along with destitute people.

During flood women's privacy seems to be completely challenged which ultimately renders to enormous social sufferings for them. There are thousands of instances when women could not timely respond to the call of nature because of lack of privacy. Consequently, they wait till night for excretion. In a flooded condition women often go outside by rafts for excretion in open water, often in the middle of the night.

Sometimes water sources become contaminated with pathogens, which trigger large scale spread of water borne diseases such as diarrhea, cholera, and hepatitis. Besides, social taboos around menstruation and norms about appropriate behavior for women and girls are reported to contribute to health problems in young women in disaster situations³⁵. During floods, adolescent girls report perineal rashes and urinary tract infections because they are not able to wash out menstrual rags to dry, or access to clean water³⁶.

In flash flood

The responsibility of providing pure drinking water generally falls upon women, and it becomes difficult for them to fetch water from a far distance in flooded condition.

Preservation of fuel is necessarily a significant responsibility of women which become difficult during the aftermath of an event. As a result, many households suffer from hunger during post-flash-flood if they cannot manage dry foods. Also, flash flood washes away means of livelihood like poul-

³⁵ WHO,2002
³⁶WHO,2002

try, livestock etc. which are the main sources of income for many rural women in Bangladesh.

Flash flood often washes away latrines of the family. In such cases, it becomes difficult for women to go outside for defecation. They face sanitation problem also at the places where they take shelter, especially if it is an embankment. Outburst of epidemics is common as people hardly manage safe sanitation and pure drinking water during post-flash-flood conditions.

In urban flood/ drainage congestion

Slum dwelling women make their living mostly by finding self employment as temporary housemaids (in Bangla, they are called Thika Jhee). If the shanty dwelling is inundated, it becomes difficult to join in daily activities in employers' households while trying to safeguard her belongings. Creating an alternate temporary haven for the kids also becomes a necessity.

Delay or absence in the job often is translated into loss of employment, with counterproductive results on food security. Many slum-dwelling women are self employed as food producers and/or food vendors. Finding a suitable place for the micro-scale business is already a hazard, a prolonged absence from the vending spot might result into losing it altogether to other women/vendors.

Under flood/waterlogged condition, available sources of safe drinking water often become contaminated with pathogens. Women often fall victim to water borne diseases. The spread of diarrheal disease, cholera and dengue as an aftermath of a flood event often leads to loss of employment, which appears to be vital for survival of a poor woman.

In River bank erosion

When the dwelling unit is destroyed, the woman becomes totally helpless. It forces them to live in the open, without the slightest sense of privacy. The

kids often go astray. It becomes a nightmare for the woman to maintain family well being.

Loss of sanitation becomes a major concern on the part of a woman as she cannot defecate along the river in open. She often has to wait till darkness falls and consequently she accepts unhygienic health condition.

Women find it socially derogatory to live in the open, since they face its consequence first hand. Unlike their male counterparts, a woman cannot escape social misconduct if one has to accept living of a destitute woman following erosion.

1.4 GOVERNMENT'S VISION, MISSION AND OBJECTIVES ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT

The vision, mission and the overall objectives regarding disaster management of the Government of Bangladesh have been described in the Draft National Disaster Management Policy³⁷.

The **Vision** of the Government of Bangladesh regarding disaster management is to reduce the risk of people, especially the poor and the disadvantaged, from the effects of natural, environmental and human induced hazards, to a manageable and acceptable humanitarian level, and to have in place an efficient emergency response system capable of handling large scale disasters.

The Mission is to bring a paradigm shift in disaster management from conventional response and relief practice to a more comprehensive risk reduction culture.

The Overall Objective is to strengthen the capacity of the Bangladesh disaster management system to reduce unacceptable risk and improve response and recovery management at all levels.

³⁷ MoFDM, 2008 b

1.5 BANGLADESH DISASTER MANAGEMENT REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Bangladesh's regulative framework for disaster management provides for the relevant legislative, policy and best practice framework under which the activity of Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management in Bangladesh is managed and implemented. The framework includes:

Disaster Management Act (Draft)³⁸

A Disaster Management Act will be enacted with a view to create the legislative tool under which disaster risk and emergency management will be undertaken in Bangladesh, and the legal basis in which activities and actions will be managed. It will also create mandatory obligations and responsibilities on Ministries, committees and appointments. The objectives of the Act will be:

- a) To help communities to mitigate the potential adverse effects of hazard events, prepare for managing the effects of a disaster event, effectively respond to and recover from a disaster or an emergency situation, and adapt to adverse effects of climate change;
- b) To provide for effective disaster management for Bangladesh;
- c) To establish an institutional framework for disaster management; and
- d) To establish risk reduction as a core element of disaster management.

National Disaster Management Policy (Draft)³⁹

A National Disaster Management Policy will be formulated to define the national perspective on disaster risk reduction and emergency management, and to describe the strategic framework, and national principles of disaster management in Bangladesh. It will be of strategic in nature and will de-

³⁸ MoFDM,2008 a
³⁹ MoFDM,2008 b

scribe the broad national objectives, and strategies in disaster management.

Disaster Management Plans

The Bangladesh National Plan for Disaster Management⁴⁰ is a strategic document to be effective for a certain period of time. This is an umbrella plan which provides the overall guideline for the relevant sectors and the disaster management committees at all levels to prepare and implement their area specific plans.

The Ministry of Food and Disaster Management (MoFDM) being the focal ministry for disaster risk reduction and emergency management will take the lead role in disaster risk reduction and emergency management planning. Additionally, there will be a few hazard specific management plans, such as Flood Management Plan, Cyclone and Storm Surge and Tsunami Management Plan, Earthquake Management Plan, Drought Management Plan, River Erosion Management Plan, etc. Moreover there will be a detailed Disaster Management Plan for each District, Upazila, Union and Paurashava and City Corporation of the country. A District Disaster Management Plan will be the compilation of the Upa-zila Disaster Management Plans of the district. Similarly, a Upa-zila Disaster Management Plan will be the compilation of the union disaster management plans of that Upazila prepared by the Union DMCs. So DMCs at Union and Paurashava levels will be mainly responsible for conducting the risk assessment.

Standing Orders on Disaster⁴¹

The Standing Orders on Disaster describes the detailed roles and responsibilities of committees, Ministries and other organizations in disaster risk reduction and emergency management, and establishes the necessary actions required in implementing Bangladesh's Disaster Management Model. The Standing Orders have been prepared with the avowed objective of making the concerned persons understand their duties and responsibilities regarding disaster management at all levels, and accomplishing them. All Minis-

⁴⁰ DMB,2010 a

⁴¹ DMB,2010 b

tries, Divisions/Departments and Agencies shall prepare their own Action Plans in respect of their responsibilities under the Standing Orders for efficient implementation. The National Disaster Management Council (NDMC) and Inter-Ministerial Disaster Management Coordination Committee (IM-DMCC) will ensure coordination of disaster related activities at the National level. Coordination at district, thana and union levels will be done by the respective District, Thana and Union Disaster Management Committees. The Disaster Management Bureau will render all assistance to them by facilitating the process.

Guidelines for Government at all Levels (Best Practice Models)

Guidelines for Government at all levels are developed as best practice models and are used to assist Ministries, NGOs, disaster management committees and civil society in implementing disaster risk management.

2. PROFILE OF DWA

2.1 INTRODUCTION

Ministry of Women and Children Affairs is the prime implementing agency for Government's Women and Gender development activities. Empowering women and gender mainstreaming are the major **Missions** of MoWCA. The ministry implements various programmes, projects and activities through Directorate of Women's Affairs (DWA), Jatiyo Mohila Sangshtha, and Bangladesh Shishu Academy to accomplish its mission. DWA's activities are mainly concentrated to the gender sensitive development issues. Understandably, implementing different programmes related to social safety-net, enhancing safety and security of the women, advocacy and awareness building and imparting trainings on income generation have been prioritized in its work agenda. Recently, reducing disaster risks of resources and operations of DWA, and, achieving sustainability of the development gains of its beneficiaries through reducing their disaster vulnerability, has been emphasized.

2.2 DISASTER MANAGEMENT REGULATORY FRAME WORK OF DWA

National Women Development Policy, 2011 Bangladesh⁴²

National Women Development policy (NWDP) has been adopted by the Government of Bangladesh in 2011. Rehabilitation of Women affected by natural disaster and armed conflicts (Vide section 16.16 of NWDP) is one of the objectives of the NWDP. Following policy recommendations regarding disaster management have been made in NWDP:

- To undertake special measures for the protection and safeguard of women and girl children before any disaster situation and through providing awareness building trainings and activities enabling them

⁴² MoWCA, 2011

to face any impending disaster situations (Vide section 37.1of NWDP);

- To rehabilitate women and children who are affected by the river bank erosion and other natural disasters(Vide section 37.2of NWDP);
- To consider the safety issues of women and to take appropriate measures in this regard at both pre disaster preparedness stage and post disaster rehabilitation stage. Special considerations should be given to the physically and mentally challenged women (Vide section 37.3of NWDP);
- To take necessary steps for the protection of girl children during disaster emergencies. To take appropriate measures for ensuring availability of health kits and sanitation (Vide section 37.4 of NWDP);
- To provide material and psycho- social assistances to the women emphasizing on the ability of women to face disaster emergencies (Vide section 37.5of NWDP);
- To make social safety net programmes more women friendly and to device strategies more protection (Vide section 37.6of NWDP);
- To take appropriate measures for ensuring that the food distribution programmes during disaster meet the demands of the women (Vide section 37.7of NWDP);
- To emphasis the need of health services along with food for the women after any disaster situation (Vide section 37.8of NWDP);
- To keep appropriate arrangements for infants, new mothers and pregnant women (eg., breast feeding corner) in the shelters (Vide section 37.9 of NWDP);

- To involve communities where distressed women live in welfare activities for the distressed women during and after disaster situations (vide 37.10 of NWDP);

These policy directives are very comprehensive to cover all issues related to all stages of (pre, during and after) disaster management and could, therefore, be viewed as appropriate and effective steps for Disaster Risk Reduction of the beneficiaries for any subsequent disaster situation.

National Plan of Action for Women Development, 1999⁴³

This Plan was prepared for the comprehensive development of women and girl child in light of the 'Platform for Action' adopted in Fourth International Conference on Women, 1995 held in Beijing. In this plan, specific work plans for the development of women to be implemented by 15 different ministries of the government including MoCWA have been prepared. Issues related to DRR have not been specifically addressed in this plan. However, activities outlined for overall development of the women are expected to have important implications in disaster risk reduction of women and children of the country.

Duties and responsibilities defined in SOD for MOWCA

In the revised SOD⁴⁴ following specific responsibilities for conducting activities to reduce disaster risk of women and children have been earmarked for MoWCA:

- Designate a senior staff in the Ministry as the Disaster Management Focal Point;
- Establish close contact with the IMDMCC and MoFDM and other disaster management committees;
- Arrange capacity building programme for the Upazila and UP level staff on risk reduction focusing on women and children protection rights involving staff/officials from ministries of social welfare, local government and rural development and DMB;

⁴³ MoWCA, 1999

⁴⁴ DMB, 2010 b

- Develop a sectoral risk mitigation and preparedness strategy plan;
- Incorporate risk mitigation and risk reduction elements in all the development programmes and plans of the MoWCA;
- Prepare checklist/indicators to ensure that all relevant development projects and plans have provisions for empowerment of women and children including adolescents in the community;
- Undertake risk assessment and risk reduction programme for women and children with respect to disaster including safely prepositioning of relief items and protection and psychosocial support kits for children and adolescents;
- Ensure budgetary provision for risk reduction and short-term response programme for immediate mitigation of vulnerability for women and children.

Duties and responsibilities defined in SOD for DWA

Following disaster risk reduction responsibilities are identified for DWA in the revised SOD⁴⁵;

- Besides the normal function the department will carry out the task on disaster management. Ensure participation of the representation form the department in different disaster management committees;
- Ensure women participation in the preparedness and disaster management activities;
- Play active role to identify the gender gap and ensure its implementation in all disaster management activities;
- Provide livelihood support to women and children disaster victims.

⁴⁵ DMB, 2010 b

2.3 ALLOCATION OF BUSINESS OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN AFFAIRS

Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA) is the line ministry of the Government of Bangladesh responsible for looking after the issues related to women and children development. Major businesses allocated to the ministry include⁴⁶:

- Formulation of National Policies regarding welfare and development of women and children;
- Formulation of Programmes for the welfare and development of Women and children;
- Matters relating to legal and social rights of women and children;
- Attending to the problems and affairs relating to women and children, and communicating and disseminating relevant information for awareness building;
- Programmes for empowerment of women including their employment opportunities;
- Co-ordination and monitoring of WID activities of different Ministries through designated WID Focal Points;
- Liaison with women's organizations and civil society to encourage their contribution;
- Control and registration of all voluntary women's organizations;
- Matters relating to violence against women and children;
- Allowances to the husband-deserted destitute women and the widow;
- Agreements and liaison with international organizations in the field of gender equality and for the advancement of women and children;
- Coordinating all matters relating to children with other ministries and Organizations;
- Liaison with UNICEF and other concerned international bodies/foreign agencies dealing with child development;

⁴⁶ MoWCA, (undated)

- Liaison with international organizations and matters relating to treaties and agreements with other countries and world bodies relating to subjects allotted to this Ministry;
- Inquiries and statistics on any subject allotted to this ministry;
- All laws on subjects allotted to this ministry;
- Fees in respect of any of the subjects allotted to this ministry except fees taken in courts.

2.4 CHARTER OF DUTIES OF DWA⁴⁷

Charter of duties for DWA, allocated by the government include following activities for the department:

- To conduct field level activities for the development of women;
- To assist MoWCA in developing and implementing women development policies;
- To implement and evaluate different projects taken by the line ministry;
- To undertake policing and to provide legal assistance for upholding dignity of the women including their legal, social and religious rights;
- To provide medical assistance to destitute, helpless and violence victims;
- To rehabilitate Acid survivors with necessary medical assistance;
- To organize women in such a way that they could effectively be involved in activities for socio- economic development;
- To work for the development of women including creation of job opportunity;
- To control and register the women voluntary organization;
- To arrange residence for working/ work seeker women;
- For destitute women-
 - Assist with cash or kind for relief, rehabilitation and development;
 - Undertake and implement development projects;

⁴⁷ DWA (2010 a)

- Construct and maintain residences, rehabilitation centers and training centers;
- Provides stipends to orphan meritorious students;
- Take responsibility movable and immovable properties;
- Establishes different industrial and commercial enterprises for economic development and to maintain and run those enterprises;
- To run different investment schemes based on necessity and demand;
- To assume movable and immovable properties like cash and security instruments;
- To trade securities with prior permission from government;
- To take loan for the establishment of industries and mortgage properties of the department for the same purpose with prior permission from government;
- To undertake any kind of agreement, deed with prior permission from government;
- To implement programmes of the government including micro-credit and VGD programmes;
- To implement allowance programmes for widows and husband deserted women;
- To arrange day care center for the children of working women;
- To train women for self employment and awareness building;
- To perform ex-officio responsibility of the National Council for Women's Development;
- Any duties allocated by the government time to time.

Many of the duties listed in this charter could be very effective in reducing disaster risk since these would increase the resilience of the women both as individual and as a member of a community.

2.5 DWA'S INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY, MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENT AND RESOURCES

DWA plans, designs and implements different revenue and development projects for ensuring women development and gender equity.

DWA performs its duties under the directives of the MoWCA. This department is the implementing arm of the MoWCA. Project Planning and programming activities are mainly done at the ministry or at the headquarters. The MoWCA has a planning unit with a senior level official in charge. Field level activities of DWA are carried out by its district and Upazila level offices. Besides, to undertake and implement different training activities, mainly on human resource development and self-employment the department has a number of training centers. District/Upazila level officials of DWA are responsible for preparing annual work plan for the activities regarding women development in both revenue and development sectors. At district/Upazila level, they can design and implement different activities in line with the annual work plan approved by the headquarters/ ministry. Field level activities of DWA are spread in 64 districts and 412 Upazilas of Bangladesh. In total, the department has 2323 approved posts out of which 366 are vacant at the moment⁴⁸. Field offices of DWA are responsible for collecting and keeping records of the destitute women in their respective jurisdictions. Coordinating with the voluntary organizations and NGOs in implementing different women development activities, such as, awareness building in different gender related issues, organizing trainings in different trade courses, providing legal and medical assistance to the victims of violence, etc is also responsibility of field level offices of DWA.

⁴⁸ DWA (undated)

2.6 ON-GOING PROGRAMMES, PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF DWA

In line with the charter of duties for the department, DWA implements different programmes, projects and activities which could be classified in following 7 operational clusters⁴⁹:

Cluster 1: Gender sensitivity and awareness raising activity;

Cluster 2: Human resource development and self employment related activities;

Cluster 3: Social safety net issues;

Cluster 4: Poverty reduction and employment generation;

Cluster 5: Socio-economic development;

Cluster 6: Protecting women and children against violence and trafficking;

Cluster 7: Service oriented activities for women.

Detail list is appended in ANNEX-I

2.7 CURRENT AND OUTSTANDING CHALLENGES FOR DWA IN SERVICE DELIVERY

Current and outstanding challenges for DWA have been grouped into two categories, viz., during disaster challenges and regular operational challenges. However, regular operational challenges of the department, which have been observed to have huge implications in its efficient discharging of disaster management responsibilities, limit its ability to work efficiently during disasters.

⁴⁹ DWA, 2010 b

2.7.1 During Disaster Challenges

During disaster challenges being faced by DWA could be grouped under following three groups, viz., resources, operations and beneficiaries.

❖ Resources

- Dilapidated Offices of DWA and CBOs and NGOs /Shomitees working with DWA, in disaster prone areas get damaged usually by hazards such as cyclone, tidal surge, flood and water logging. If hazard like an earthquake, strikes, may totally destroy offices in some areas.
- VGD food-grains and other materials get damaged due to flood water.
- VGD food-grains distribution centers get damaged.
- Furniture and important documents get destroyed.
- Training centers, safe/shelter homes and day-care centers get affected and sometime become unusable for quite long time.

❖ Operations

- All operations including regular official activities and beneficiary support, that are run from the DWA and Sommittee Offices buildings get affected, and sometimes postponed due to flood, tidal surges and water logging.
- Delay caused in loan repayment schedule.
- Field level supervision and monitoring activities by local field offices become difficult and very often get disrupted.
- Training activities in the training centers get disrupted.
- Awareness building activities, such as, courtyard meetings, adolescent club activities are disrupted.
- Besides, regular support services, including atrocity victim support, get affected since less number of support seekers turn up during disasters.

❖ **Beneficiaries**

- Since most of the beneficiaries are poor acute shortage of food and of safe drinking water put beneficiaries in deep crisis during disasters.
- Income generating activities get disrupted.
- Beneficiaries /credit borrowers fail to pay loan installments.
- Documents required for getting different support services, such as, VGD cards are lost or destroyed.
- Increase of atrocities and violence against women and girls during disaster but less reporting to the victim support centers
- Increase of disease prevalence during disaster.
- All CBO and NGO/Shomitee activities become stagnant since DWA cannot provide financial support to the affected CBOs and NGO/Shomitees

2.7.2 Regular Operational Challenges

❖ **Centralized System of Operation**

DWA operates in very much centralized system of operating. Field offices some time need to wait long for some urgent decisions to come from head-quarters.

❖ **Shortage of Human Resource**

Out of 484 Upazila in Bangladesh, DWA has office set-up in only 420 Upzila and of them only 412 have Upazila Women Development officers. Uneven staffing pattern hampers DWA's smooth functioning across the country. Many of the field level officers in the less staffed offices are over burdened

and, therefore, field level monitoring activities are not always being official duties are sometime not properly discharged.

❖ **Shortage of Financial Resources and Leverage**

Field offices have very little financial resources and leverage at their disposal for managing any immediate crisis.

❖ **Lack of Necessary Trainings and Training Materials**

Since disaster management issues have been newly introduced to DWA activities, training curricula on this issue is yet to be introduced/induct into the regular training activities of the department. Shortage of sufficient manpower trained in this discipline is observed in the department.

❖ **Shortage of Necessary Logistic Support**

Compared to other government department, DWA has little logistic support for field operations. Important field operations, even in normal time, such as WID activity, victim support activities are getting severely affected due to unavailability of transport facilities for the district and Upazila level officials.

3. DRR ACTION PLAN

3.1 VISION, MISSION, SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

3.1.1 Vision

The vision for the DRRAP of DWA would be, by 2018, DWA has a functionally efficient disaster risk management system in place that would work for the substantial reduction of disaster risks of resources, existing service delivery system and beneficiaries of DWA from different natural and anthropogenic hazards to an acceptable level.

3.1.2 Mission

The mission that would be accomplished by DWA through proper implementation of DRRAP is to have a planning and operation system in place, where DRR efforts are incorporated for achieving efficiency and sustainability of its mandated DRR efforts, and, to have a reduced risk environment for its beneficiaries due to their enhanced resilience to disaster risks.

3.1.3 Scope

DRRAP is the key document for DWA specifying platforms, strategic priorities, activities and mechanisms pertaining to the implementation, and required institutional arrangement of disaster risk reduction efforts of DWA, within its own operational arena for ensuring reduced disaster risk for its beneficiaries. It describes responsibilities of all stakeholders which were identified through a participatory coordination process and codified in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action.

Scope of the DRRAP therefore would be,

- Analyzing the natural and man-made disaster threats to resources, operations and beneficiaries of services rendered by DWA with a view to identifying where and when these threats are likely to occur and in what frequency.

- Identifying and analyzing disaster vulnerabilities of resources, operations and beneficiaries of services of DWA.
- Identifying what activities for reducing disaster risk of the aforementioned entities should be taken by DWA in different stages of disaster management, viz., preparedness, emergency response and early recovery and rehabilitation.
- Identifying of specific roles and responsibilities of DWA officials and staffs.
- Identifying efficient and sustainable implementation mechanism of DRR activities by DWA.
- Specifying coordination mechanism with other stakeholders for implementation of DRR activities.
- Specifying monitoring and evaluation mechanism for DRR activities to be conducted by DWA.

3.1.4 Objectives

The objectives of DRRAP are to:

- Align the strategic direction of disaster risk reduction initiatives of DWA with national priorities and international commitments.
- Articulate the vision and goals for DRR activities of DWA.
- Outline the strategic direction and priorities to guide the design and implementation of DRR policies and programs of DWA.
- Create a cohesive and well coordinated programming framework incorporating various stakeholders.
- Ensure that DRR efforts are comprehensive and all-hazards focused.

3.2 DRIVERS

International and national drivers, which include various international and national policies, protocols, framework conventions, laws and local and regional initiatives had been instrumental in the preparation of DRRAP for DWA.

3.2.1 International

Millennium Development Goals

Protecting the vulnerable is one of the key objectives of The Millennium Declaration of September 2000⁵⁰. Principal goals of MDG include the following:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development

Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015

In observance of aspects related to disaster risk reduction, the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction convened in January 2005 in Kobe identified an expected outcome, i.e. the substantial reduction of disaster losses, in lives and in the social, economic and environmental assets of communities and countries. The realization of this outcome will require the full commitment and involvement of all actors concerned, including governments, regional and international organizations, and civil society including volunteers, the private sector and the scientific community. To attain this expected outcome, the following strategic goals will be adopted⁵¹:

- The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all

⁵⁰ UN,2000

⁵¹ UN/ISDR,2006

levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction;

- The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards;
- The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.

Priority areas for 2005-2015 include the following:

1. Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation.
2. Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning.
3. Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all level.
4. Reduce underlying risk factors.
5. Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels.

Besides, this sets out concrete measures to make communities and nations more resilient to disasters and includes an agreement between the 168 signing nations that: ‘a gender perspective should be integrated into all disaster risk management policies, plans and decision-making processes, including those related to risk assessment, early warning, information management, and education and training.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

The Convention on Climate Change⁵² sets an overall framework for inter-governmental efforts to tackle the challenge posed by climate change. It recognizes that the climate system is a shared resource whose stability can be affected by industrial and other emissions of carbon dioxide and other

⁵² UN, 1992

greenhouse gases. The Convention enjoys near universal membership, with 189 countries having ratified.

Under the Convention, governments:

- gather and share information on greenhouse gas emissions, national policies and best practices;
- launch national strategies for addressing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to expected impacts, including the provision of financial and technological support to developing countries;
- cooperate in preparing for adaptation to the impacts of climate change.

The Convention entered into force on 21 March 1994.

SAARC Framework for Action (SFA) 2006-2015

The Heads of State or Governments in the 13th Dhaka Summit called for elaboration of a Comprehensive Framework on Early Warning and Disaster Management. In view of the December 2004 Asia Tsunami and the 2005 Pakistan Earthquake, the Heads of State or Governments underscored the urgency to put in place a regional response mechanism dedicated to disaster preparedness, emergency relief and rehabilitation to ensure immediate response. They directed the concerned national authorities to coordinate their activities in the areas of disaster management such as early warning, exchange of information, training and sharing of experiences and best practices in emergency relief efforts.

Following the Dhaka Declaration, a SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) Expert Group was formed to formulate a regional comprehensive framework on disaster management for the SAARC region⁵³. The expert group met in Dhaka on 7-9 February 2006. As per the mandate of the meeting and taking into account the deliberations of the meeting, Bangladesh circulated a draft Comprehensive Framework on Disaster Manage-

⁵³ SAARC, 2006

ment titled- 'Disaster Management in South Asia: A Comprehensive Regional Framework for Action 2006-2015', for consideration. After detailed discussions and amendments, the Framework was adopted in the Meeting.

Strategic Goals of the framework include the following:

- Professionalising the disaster management system;
- Mainstreaming disaster risk reduction;
- Strengthening of community institutional mechanisms;
- Empowering community at risk particularly women, the poor and the disadvantaged;
- Expanding risk reduction programming across a broader range of hazards (all hazards approach);
- Strengthening emergency response systems; and
- Developing and strengthening networks of relevant national, regional and international organizations.

The SFA identifies the following as the priority areas for action:

- Develop and implement risk reduction strategies
- Establish Regional and National Response Mechanisms
- Establish a Regional Information Sharing Mechanism and Develop Network of
- Institutions and Organizations
- Develop and implement Disaster Management training, education, research and awareness programmes
- Apply the ICT for disaster management.
- Establish an effective monitoring and evaluation mechanism.

Gender considerations in the international agenda on DRR

In 2006, national governments recognized the neglect of women's needs, concerns and contributions to DRR at the 61st General Assembly of the United Nations and adopted a resolution concerning the need to speed up

the promotion of gender mainstreaming and women's participation in decision making in DRR initiatives.

Gender issues were addressed at the first session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction held in 2007. The session summary pointed out that while women play important roles in building a culture of disaster prevention, particularly at the community level, this was not well recognized and, so, their potential to contribute to DRR was mostly left untapped. The fact that women and girls are disproportionately affected by disasters was also noted. The summary also urges ISDR System partners to undertake awareness-raising and action to address gender factors in disaster risk and actively promote women's leadership and participation in DRR.

In 2008 at the 63rd General Assembly, the UN Secretary-General reported on the increased promotion of gender mainstreaming by UNISDR. UNISDR's focus in integrating gender into DRR is three-fold: advocating the importance and necessity of gender-equality in achieving the overarching goal of the Hyogo Framework; educating and mobilizing both men and women to promote gender equality in disaster risk reduction; and providing guidance and good practices for gender-sensitive policies and programmes related to disaster risk reduction. UNISDR also organized a multi-stakeholder expert meeting to advance policy guidance and development of training modules for capacity building on gender and disaster risk reduction.

Regional Progress in promoting gender issues in DRR

At the inter-governmental level, specific commitment to the issue was made with the Delhi Declaration resulting from the 2nd Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, which took place in November 2007. The Declaration contained the following explicit recommendation: "Encourage the national governments to make special efforts to mainstream gender issues in disaster risk reduction so as to reduce the vulnera-

bility of women and to recognize the important role women can play in disaster risk reduction.”

3.2.2 National

Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)

Given the existence of direct linkage between disaster management and poverty, and women being most vulnerable in disaster situation, need for ensuring social protection for women against vulnerability and risks has been stressed in Bangladesh Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)⁵⁴.

Disaster Management Act and Draft National Disaster Management Policy

These two documents were drafted in 2008 and awaiting approval from the government. In line with the Policy matrix 15 of PRSP, gender concerns are well addressed in the draft disaster management policy since women, children, elderly, the disable and other socially marginalized groups have been identified as primary beneficiaries of all disaster management efforts of the country.

Mainstreaming disaster risk reduction issues in national and sectoral plans and preparedness for earthquake and tsunami risks are the two targets/priorities where MoWCA's role are clearly spelled out in the policy along with other sectoral ministries. The draft policy also recommends for having a Standing Orders on Disaster, Disaster Management Plans at various levels from National down to union level, and disaster management committees to implement or execute those plans. Female representatives have been included in these disaster management committees. Discussion with women groups has been made obligatory. Trainings are suggested for committee members on gender sensitive issues. The policy encourages preparation of action plans at different levels with clear prioritization of

⁵⁴ IMF, 2005

needs of the women and children. Besides, preparation of sectoral and hazard specific plans are also recommended in this policy.

National Plan for Disaster Management 2010-2015 (NPDM)

One of the fundamental principles of the plan is to have its focus on the outcomes that benefit vulnerable communities, especially women, the poor and socially disadvantaged.

The Plan is prepared by then MoFDM currently (MoDMR) to achieve following objectives:

- Align the strategic direction of disaster management programs with national priorities and international commitments;
- Articulate the vision and goals for disaster management of the government;
- Outline the strategic direction and priorities to guide the design and implementation of disaster management policies and programs;
- Create a cohesive and well coordinated programming framework incorporating government, non-government and private sector;
- Ensure that disaster management has a comprehensive and all-hazards focus comprising disaster risk reduction and emergency response;
- Illustrate to other ministries, NGOs, civil society and the private sector how their work can contribute to the achievements of the strategic goals and government vision on disaster management.

The strategic goals outlined in the NPDM are:

- Professionalizing disaster management system;
- Mainstreaming risk reduction;
- Strengthening institutional mechanism;
- Empowering at risk communities;

- Expanding risk reduction programming;
- Strengthening emergency response systems;
- Developing and strengthening networks.

Defining and re-defining risk environment, managing risk environment and responding to threat environment are the three elements of disaster management model proposed in the NPDM. In the plan detailed vulnerability assessment of the elements in community (eg., women, children and poor) has been emphasized to define risk environment.

Following five key strategies have been identified as DRR mainstreaming initiatives in NPDM:

- **Advocacy:** Awareness rising among Political, Senior Policy and Government Department Officials, Media and Academic Institutions is a priority strategy for building knowledge and understanding on the benefits of risk reduction and the roles these organizations play in implementing risk reduction programmes.
- **Policy and Planning Reform:** A significant review of disaster management and development planning policy is being undertaken to ensure that they facilitate mainstreaming and promote a comprehensive risk reduction culture.
- **Capacity Building:** This strategy has targeted a complete review of the roles and responsibilities of disaster management committees (DMCs) at all levels to ensure they reflect risk reduction as well as emergency response functions. A national training curriculum is being developed to ensure that committees receive capacity building training to ensure they understand and can fulfill their functions effectively.
- **Planning Frameworks:** Disaster management planning at all levels is being significantly overhauled to ensure that DMC plans accommodate risk reduction mainstreaming at all levels.
- **Uniform CRA Guidelines:** Uniform CRA processes are being established to ensure consistency in the conduct of community risk identification and compatibility with the risk reduction planning processes

of the respective DMCs. The guidelines also have steps to ensure strong linkages with scientific analysis information.

The NPDM is an umbrella plan and would provide guidelines for development of Sectoral Development Plans incorporating Disaster Risk Reduction. Every Ministry/Division of the Government of Bangladesh would prepare its own Sectoral Development Plans according to the recommendation of National Plan for Disaster Management. MoFDM with the participation of sectoral experts has been entrusted with the responsibility for the preparation of a general guideline to incorporate disaster risk reduction agenda for the sectors. MoFDM will also be responsible for overall monitoring and follow-up of the process to ensure that disaster risk reduction agenda are mainstreamed within the sectoral policies, plans and programmes.

At sub-national level, NPDM recommends for the preparation of disaster management plans at district, Upazila, citycorporation/ municipality and union levels by respective disaster management committees.

Promotion of gender, cultural and religious sensitivity training as integral components of education and training for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation have been emphasized in Disaster management Action Matrix included in the NPDM.

Identification and documentation of community and household level all-hazards risks with special emphasis on risks of diversified group including women, children, the elderly and the disabled, following the standard assessment procedure have been stressed in the NPDM.

Designing and implementation of livelihood support programmes for at risk communities, particularly women, the elderly, the disabled and other disadvantaged groups have been identified one of the key actions in the Disaster Management action Matrix.

Enhancement of recovery schemes including psycho-social training programmes in order to mitigate the psychological damage of vulnerable populations, particularly women, children, the elderly and the disabled, in the aftermath of disasters has been identified as one of the key interventions in NPDM.

Unfortunately, in none of the National level institutions created for coordinating Disaster management activities in Bangladesh representatives either from MoWCA or DWA have been included. However, representation of women in committees at sub-national level has been ensured through the inclusion of women representatives and officials of DWA in these committees at respective levels.

Revised Standing Orders on Disaster (SOD)

The Standing Orders on Disaster describes the detailed roles and responsibilities of committees, Ministries and other organizations in disaster risk reduction and emergency management, and establishes the necessary actions required in implementing Bangladesh's Disaster Management Model. The Standing Orders have been prepared with the avowed objective of making the concerned persons understand their duties and responsibilities regarding disaster management at all levels, and accomplishing them. All Ministries, Divisions/Departments and Agencies shall prepare their own Action Plans in respect of their responsibilities under the Standing Orders for efficient implementation. The National Disaster Management Council (NDMC) and Inter-Ministerial Disaster Management Coordination Committee (IM-DMCC) will ensure coordination of disaster related activities at the National level. Coordination at district, Thana and union levels will be done by the respective District, Thana and Union Disaster Management Committees. The Disaster Management Bureau will render all assistance to them by facilitating the process. In line with Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management Approach with special emphasis on gender and diversity group Standing Orders on Disasters have been revised.

Duties and responsibilities defined by SOD for MoWCA and DWA have been discussed in section 2.3

Corporate Plan of MoFDM, 2005-2009

Corporate Plan of MoFDM is the frame work for action of the Ministry of Food and Disaster Management. In the Plan goals and key result areas to be achieved by the MoFDM have been specified. The Plan also identifies future interventions and key challenges and opportunities that might come across the path of the successful materialization of these interventions. In the Plan it has been identified that community focus with a strong emphasis on issues of gender and the socially disadvantaged would be embedded in programmes of the Ministry. Introduction of Gender and Social Exclusion Analysis Framework into Risk Reduction initiatives of the MoFDM has been highlighted in the Plan.

Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP)⁵⁵

Climate change is likely to impact most severely on the poorest and most vulnerable in society. Every effort will made to ensure that they are protected and that all programmes focus on the needs of this group for food security, safe housing, employment and access to basic services, including health. This would mean increase the resilience of vulnerable groups, including women and children, through development of community-level adaptation, livelihood diversification, better access to basic services and social protection (e.g., safety nets, insurance) and scaling up

Research the linkages between (a) climate change, poverty and vulnerability and (b) climate change, poverty and health (disease incidence, nutrition, water and sanitation) in order to identify possible interventions to increase the resilience of poor and vulnerable households to climate change.

⁵⁵ MOEF, 2008

Mainstream climate change in national, sectoral and spatial development planning (in government ministries and agencies, local government, the private sector, civil society and communities) and ensure that impacts on vulnerable groups and women are prioritised in plans

Building the capacity of key government ministries and agencies to take forward climate change adaptation (e.g., Ministry of Food and Disaster Management, Bangladesh Water Development Board, Local Government Engineering Department; National Agricultural Research System, the health system, the Ministry of Women's and Children's Affairs).

National Women Development Policy, 2011 Bangladesh

Rehabilitation of Women affected by Natural Disaster and Armed is one of the objectives of the National Women Development Policy (NWDP). In NWDP specific policy recommendations regarding disaster management issues concerning women and children (vide section 2.2) have been made. These policy directives are very comprehensive to cover all the issues related to all stages of (pre, during and after) disaster management and could therefore viewed as appropriate and effective steps for Disaster Risk Reduction of the beneficiaries for any subsequent disaster situation.

National Plan of Action for Women Development, 1999

This Plan was prepared for the comprehensive development of women and girl child in light of the 'Platform for Action' adopted in Fourth International Conference on Women, 1995 held in Beijing. In this plan specific work plans for the development of women to be implemented by 15 different ministries of the government including MoCWA have been prepared. Issues related to DRR have not been specifically addressed in this plan. However, activities outlined for overall development of the women are expected to have important implications in disaster risk reduction of the women and children of the country.

Allocation of Business of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs

Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA) is the line ministry of the Government of Bangladesh responsible for looking after the issues related to women and children development. According to AOB major activities of MoWCA have been identified in section 2.3. Many of the duties allocated to the ministry are designed to reduce vulnerabilities of the poor women, which would also reduce their risk from natural disasters.

Charter of Duties of DWA

Charter of duties for DWA has been discussed in section 2.4. Many of the duties listed in this charter could be very effective in reducing disaster risk since these would increase the resilience of the women both as individual and as a member of a community.

3.3 PRIORITIES

Initiatives to reduce disaster risks will strive for sustainability and participation by all stakeholders. Strong commitment to selected priority actions will characterize these efforts. These priorities serve the purpose of laying a strong foundation for the implementation of an integrated sustainable disaster risk reduction programme that is in line with similar effort at the national and international levels.

There are five key priority areas for disaster risk reduction that must be addressed:

- Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation;
- Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning;
- Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience both for the operations of DWA and its beneficiaries;
- Reduce underlying risk factors for resources, operations of DWA and lives and livelihoods of its beneficiaries;
- Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels.

3.4 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Based on a short and medium term perspective for risk reduction ;
- Gender sensitive, humane and compassionate ;
- Proactiveness: the Motto is prevention before cure;
- Impartiality: equity, neutrality, fairness, even handedness, objectivity and unbiased;
- Efficiency and effectiveness, responsiveness, relevance and timely;
- Integrity: accountability, transparency, honesty and confidence ;
- Innovation: creativity, visionary, energetic and inspirational;
- Professionalism: high quality, reliability, flexibility;
- Participation: value ideas, inclusive, non judgmental.

3.5 METHODOLOGY ADOPTED FOR DRRAP FORMULATION

DRRAP has been prepared considering the working areas of DWA and also taking into account the vulnerability of women and children due to different disasters across the country. Following is the detail on the activities carried out for formulation of DRRAP.

3.5.1 Fixing the Scope and the Planning Template

Detail discussion was held on March 20, 2011 among officials of DWA, representatives of CDMP and the consultant to fix the scope of work and for the development of a draft template for the formulation of DRRAP for DWA. The consultant was subsequently asked to review some specific documents related to Disaster Management and Women Development issues of Bangladesh for developing the DRRAP template for DWA, in a joint meeting held on April 07, 2011. A draft template was developed by the consultant and submitted to DWA. With some modifications from DWA a draft planning template was approved. DRRAP for DWA is formulated using the approved template.

3.5.2 Development of Risk Profile on Women and Children

The consultant reviewed good number of documents related to disaster and its effects on women, both from country and abroad, to develop a disaster risk profile on women and children.

3.5.3 Identification of Gap and Scope for DRR Incorporation In DWA's Activities

Gap identification and scoping of the DRRAP have been made through detailed review of relevant published documents and also through analyzing the opinions of the participants, received during 7 divisional level consultation meetings.

- **Review of Published Documents**

The consultant reviewed a good number of recent documents related to disaster risk management published across the world and also officially published documents of DWA and MoWCA regarding their policies, allocation of business, and, activities to identify the gaps and possible scope for possible incorporation of DRR activities in existing activities DWA.

- **Divisional Level Consultation Meetings**

It is essential to ensure the incorporate the consensus of the stakeholders, decision makers and target group. DWA is working in all 64 districts and 420 upzillas of Bangladesh. Seven consultation meetings were conducted in 7 divisional cities to incorporate and identify the stakeholder's opinion into the action plan.

3.5.4 Identification of Risk and Risk Reduction Measures

In consultation with different stakeholders in divisional level consultation meetings vulnerabilities, risks, and possible measures to be taken for risk reduction of different elements at risk, viz., resources and operations of DWA and lives and properties of its beneficiaries have been identified. The approach had been mostly qualitative. A structured information collection

format (Vide Annex-IV), in accordance with CRA guideline, was developed and utilized for this purpose.

3.5.5 Identify the Implementation Mechanism and Institutional Arrangement for Risk Reduction Action Plan

Implementation mechanism and institutional arrangement for efficient and sustainable DRR activities for DWA was developed preliminarily by reviewing current organizational structure of DWA through a group discussion with high level officials stationed at headquarters. Subsequently draft implementation mechanisms and institutional arrangement were finalized through a validation workshop conducted at Dhaka.

3.6 PROGRAMME AND SUB-PROGRAMMES

For the medium term, the DRRAP is a 5 year programme (2013-2018) to build the capacity and resilience of DWA and its beneficiaries to meet the challenges posed by different disasters. The programme is structured around four pillars, *viz*,

- Institutionalization;
- Knowledge Management and Capacity Building;
- Increasing Resilience;
- Advocacy and Awareness Building;

Activities and interventions are detailed out in an implementation framework (vide Annex-V) that focuses on several immediate, medium-term and long term actions.

3.7 SUB-PROGRAMMES

All Disaster risk reduction efforts are required to be aligned with the policy guidance and planning suggestions of National Disaster management Policy and National Plan for Disaster Management respectively. Following are the

key activities under different pillar to be accomplished as part of the implementation of the Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction effort by DWA:

3.7.1 Pillar1: Institutionalization

1. Adopt new or modify existing Charter of Duties of DWA to support DRR activities that encourage compliance with DRR efforts of National and International drivers.
2. Update National Plan of Action for Women Development, 1999 including DRR activities in line with the policy guidance given in NWDP, 2011.
3. Promote incentives for undertaking risk reduction and mitigation activities by partner organizations.
4. Allocate sufficient financial resources for all level offices to conduct DRR activities.
5. DRR activities should be properly planned and included in the annual work plan of DWA.
6. Recognizing the importance and specificity of local risk patterns and trends, decentralize responsibilities and resources for DRR activities to relevant district and Upazila level.
7. Systematically involve community in DRR activities of DWA, including in the process of decision-making, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
8. Establish networking with local, national and international organization involved in DRR activities.

3.7.2 Pillar 2: Knowledge Management and Capacity Building

1. Identify, assess and monitor disaster vulnerabilities and risks of different resources, such as, existing office buildings, training centers, safe homes, day care centers, equipments etc.
2. Identify, assess and monitor disaster vulnerabilities and risks of operations of DWA
3. Identify, assess and monitor disaster vulnerabilities and risks of the beneficiaries in terms their lives and livelihoods and also their engagements in the different activities of DWA.
4. Establish link with the scientists, DRM professionals, research organizations for accessing latest developments in this branch of knowledge.
5. Establish mechanism to disseminate new information regarding DRR among the staff members.
6. Establish a research analysis wing with qualified professional to undertake in-house research.
7. Create a separate set –up in the organizational structure of DWA dedicated for DRR activities.
8. Establish a modern robust High frequency communication system across all offices of the department.
9. Increase management capacity of the staff through regular management trainings along with trainings on disaster management.
10. Trainings on basic life survival skills such as swimming, first aid, fire extinguishing should be given to all staff members, members of CBO/NGOs/Shomitees and beneficiaries.
11. Create necessary logistic support for support for facilitating DRR activities both for headquarters and local offices.

3.7.3 Pillar 3: Increasing Resilience

1. Strengthen existing social safety net, micro credit and other credit programmes being implemented by DWA.
2. Strengthen activities of protecting women against violence during disaster time and its aftermath.

3. In most of the cases scarcity of pure drinking water becomes major problem for the women, small scale water supply projects can be undertaken for lessening water crisis during disaster and its aftermath.
4. Promote techniques for climate change adaptation in agriculture and small business which are major income generating occupation of the beneficiaries.
5. Promote diversified income options for populations in high-risk areas to reduce their vulnerability to hazards.
6. Promoting the development of financial risk-sharing mechanisms such as disaster insurance.
7. Reconstruction of vulnerable physical infrastructures of DWA.
8. Construction of new buildings according to prescribed safety standards

3.7.4 Pillar 4: Advocacy and Awareness Building

1. Conduct advocacy to relevant government agencies so that they plan, design and construct urgently needed new infrastructure (e.g., cyclone shelters, coastal and river embankments and water supply systems; urban drainage systems, river erosion control works, flood shelters) considering the requirements of the women;
2. Publishing IEC materials on DRRM for different disasters, for CBO/NGOs/Shomitees and beneficiaries
3. Strengthening WID activities for ensuring gender auditing and compliance in all development efforts designed for disaster risk reduction.
4. Promote the inclusion of disaster risk reduction knowledge in relevant sections of school curricula.
5. Design and implement awareness raising campaign on disaster risks and about 'dos and donots' during disaster.
6. Promoting the engagement of the media to stimulate a culture of disaster resilience and strong community involvement.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM

DRRAP serves as a guideline for disaster risk reduction activities to be carried out by DWA. The implementation of the action plan will be done in synergy with the long and medium-term development plans at the national and local levels. This effort calls for serious, concerted and consistent commitment of all relevant stakeholders. Support from the MoWCA, the line ministry with the responsibility of looking after women related matters of the GoB, will be absolutely necessary for this purpose. Following issues need to be considered for efficient and sustainable implementation of the plan.

4.2 INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

Command, control and coordination mechanism for DWA with regard to DRRAP would be as follows:

Overall Supervision: Director General, DWA

Focal Point: Additional Director, DWA

Management support: Deputy Director (Admin), Deputy Director (Finance)

Monitoring: Deputy Director (Planning)

The DWA implements its disaster management-oriented decisions in different levels which are given below:

District level: District Women Affairs Officer

Upazila level: Upazila Women Affairs Officer

4.3 EXTERNAL SUPPORT

For implementing the DRRAP Policy support will be received from MoFDM and MoFDM. DWA will be needed support from various ministries and agencies responsible for infrastructure planning, management and construction.

Technical support from research institutions and universities will also be needed for risk and vulnerability assessment. Besides, technical support could also be received from DMB, CDMP.

For addressing social vulnerability issues of the women support will also be needed from women development organizations, NGOs, legal and law enforcement agencies.

Support will also be required from media for the campaign to build awareness regarding gender issues in disaster risk reduction.

4.4 FINANCING THE PLAN

Generally, most of the activities earmarked in the plan can be funded through regular financing mechanisms followed for development financing by GoB. Exact size of the financial requirement is yet to be ascertained. However, considering the government's limited funding capacity, the civil society and the private sector are expected to play a significant role in supporting the funding of disaster risk reduction measures. Support from regional and international donors is also expected, especially in the context of a broader scope disaster risk reduction.

5. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

5.1 METHODOLOGY

The DRRAP implementation is a multi-stakeholder and multi-level undertaking. DWA is supposed to be the owner of the Plan. However, as MoWCA is the main implementing agency of GoB regarding women development activities and DWA is an organization under the MoWCA. DWA will definitely require approval of the plan from MOWCA for getting any sort of public funding for implementation of plan proposals. Therefore, it is expected that the overall monitoring will be done by MOWCA. However, regular monitoring of the field level activities will be done by DWA. If the plan is funded through development partners, then they should have their own mechanism of monitoring. In the field level, different activities will be accomplished in different mechanisms involving different stake holders. Regular progress monitoring at Upazila and district level should be done by Upazila and district women Affairs officer. If the geographic coverage of any activity extends over more than one district, then that should be monitored from head quarters. Similarly, if the activity extends over one Upazila then it should be monitored by district level officers. Activities could be clustered around main themes, and 4 different projects can be formulated. In that case, monitoring can be done in project basis. Both physical and financial progress of field level activities will be monitored at quarterly basis. The plan is initially designed for 5 years and therefore, every year there will be a progress review. Monitoring instrument will be a prescribed form to be prepared by the central monitoring unit of the headquarters.

5.2 EVALUATION CRITERIA

Activity wise evaluation criteria have been included in the Action matrix, appended in Annex-V

6. CONCLUSION

DRR interventions generally possess three distinct components. These are:

- Defining and redefining risk environment.
- Managing risk environment.
- Responding to the threat environment.

First two types of activities of the necessitate interventions before the occurrence of any disaster (pre-disaster) situation while the third one is mainly during disaster and post disaster interventions. Both structural and non-structural measures are required for proper integration of DRR activities in the functions of DWA.

DWA's activities are mainly concentrated to the gender sensitive development issues. DRR issues should be conceived as a key issue for the sustainability of such development. Realizing the importance of DRR, due emphasis has been given in the recently adopted NWDP. However, in NAP which is the strategy paper for women development, appropriate activities in this regard are yet to be included. Allocation of Business of MoWCA suggests that planning and programming for incorporation of DRR into the agencies under its control such as DWA, would mainly rest with the ministry. The MoWCA has a planning unit with a senior level official in charge. Besides, DWA's main responsibility is to assist the Ministry in implementation of programmes, projects and activities for women development. Therefore, policy directives and guidance and effective coordination with the planning unit of the ministry would be instrumental in both designing and implementing DRR interventions for DWA.

Current review of the charter of duties of DWA and its annual progress reports reveals that most of the activities performed by DWA under cluster 3,

4, 5&7 have resemblances with DRR interventions. With some reservation about the effectiveness and sustainability of some of these activities in case of any major disaster event, these interventions are definitely reducing disaster vulnerability of the beneficiaries and enhancing their resilience in socio-economic terms. DWA's 'charter of duties' limits its ability to implement large-scale physical interventions for disaster risk reduction. Nevertheless, small-scale physical interventions along with remodeled current development interventions could be very effective in reducing disaster risk of its beneficiaries and the agency itself.

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8. ANNEXURES

8.1 ANNEX-I: CURRENT ACTIVITIES OF DWA

- VGD and VGD package training
- Women Training Center
- Pregnancy time allowance
- Lactating mother support allowance
- Microcredit
- Day care Center
- Working women's hostel
- Women support activities
- Stopping violence against women
- Monitoring of registered women sommittee's activities
- WID activities
- Joyita (women entrepreneur development activity)
- Adolescent Club
- E-service
- Awareness raising activities
- Destitute development fund
- Mainstreaming gender issues
- Training programmes
- Providing physical and mental treatment and legal support to destitute women through shelter Center

8.2 ANNEX-II: STAKEHOLDERS' RESPONSE REGARDING CHALLENGES BEING FACED BY DWA AND THEIR REMEDIES

Operational Cluster	Activities	Problems Identified	Suggested Remedies
Gender sensitivity and Awareness raising works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Signing and maintaining different certificates ▪ Performing responsibility according to mandates of different line organizations ▪ Birth and Marriage registration ▪ Different Day observation ▪ Alliance formation for different issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No major problems occurred due to disaster 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pre-disaster, during disaster and post disaster activities can be planned and an annual workshop can be arranged for addressing gender and disaster issues.

Operational Cluster	Activities	Problems Identified	Suggested Remedies
Human Resource Development and empowering women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishing and maintain different Training Centers for Women ▪ Organise and arrange training programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Training programme schedule affected due to disaster as it might be delayed for 4 days or more and sometimes scheduled programmes are postponed. ▪ Transportation problem for both trainers and trainees during disaster situation. ▪ Training centers get affected due to disasters, especially, due to flood. ▪ Financial and physical losses incurred by the beneficiary affects her presence in training programme. ▪ Increased prevalence of violence during disaster time reduces attendance in the training programmes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rescheduling training programmes to a convenient time. ▪ Allowances for women to attend trainings should be increased to enhance women enrolments in the training programmes ▪ Issues requiring awareness building should be included in the regular school curriculum. ▪ Counselling, Advocacy and different awareness building training programmes should not be conducted during disaster times. ▪ Special training programmes to combat against disaster time violence should be provided to the women.
Social Safety net issues for women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ VGD ▪ Allowance for the widow and lactating women ▪ Allowance for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transportation problem of the beneficiary (communication system with the training Center, Upazila DWA office or Union parishad office snapped). ▪ VGD Food-grains and VGD cards are 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Construction of the training Centers at comparatively disaster free locations. ▪ Taking precautionary measures in some season or times which are

Operational Cluster	Activities	Problems Identified	Suggested Remedies
	<p>poor pregnant mothers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Allowance for lactating mothers 	<p>damaged due to disaster.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Training programme and other activities get affected since training Centers and office buildings are damaged. ▪ Financial and physical loss incurred by the beneficiaries. ▪ Problems in VGD or other service delivery system. ▪ Lack of safe drinking water and risk infectious diseases outbreak. 	<p>more prone to disasters, if needed, relocating training centers or VGD distribution Centers during the time of disasters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If needed, transportation cost should be provided to the beneficiaries at the time of disasters. ▪ A person should be selected for each pregnant woman who can take the allowance (maternity time allowance) instead of the women at the time of disaster. ▪ Increase manpower and budget in this connection.
<p>Poverty Reduction and creating and increasing Job opportunities</p>	<p>Providing loans to poor woman for different development purposes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Failure in loan repayment. ▪ Income level decreases or source of income damaged as a result loan receiver fails to repay loan. ▪ Training programme and other activities get affected due to disasters. ▪ Increased social crime affects service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Extending repayment period and re-defining Loan repayment schedule ▪ Taking precautionary measures in some season or times which are more prone to disasters ▪ Delegation of responsibility to local offices so that the can take appropri-

Operational Cluster	Activities	Problems Identified	Suggested Remedies
for women (Micro-credit)		beneficiaries. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trafficking, migration etc become very common phenomena during disaster time which ultimately affects loan repayment of micro-credit scheme. 	ate and quick decisions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Through forming groups support can be provided to the debtor so that the person can get away with his/ her financial difficulties and subsequently can repay the loan.
Socio-economic development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Non-government organization (Shomitees) registration and control ▪ Product exhibition and running sell centers for product marketing ▪ Sewing machine distribution ▪ Service Information Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Office building including furniture and important documents of the somitees are damaged. ▪ Financial loss of the somitees and organizations due to disaster. ▪ Problems in marketing of their products. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Construction/ reconstruction of office buildings. ▪ Grants or loans to the shhomitees for continuing their business with no or less interest at the time of disasters. ▪ Influencing beneficiaries for savings in annual basis. ▪ Strengthening product marketing activities through support of DWA's formal marketing outlets, e.g., 'Joy-eeta'.
Protecting women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Committee formation to protect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Activities of shelter Centers get affected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is obvious that, at the time of disaster, incidents social crimes and vio-

Operational Cluster	Activities	Problems Identified	Suggested Remedies
and children against violence and trafficking	<p>violence against women and children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Providing legal support, mental and physical treatment for women and children in shelter centers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Less or no complaints filed at the time of disaster, whereas this is the time when more incidents of violence is likely to occur. ▪ Lack of knowledge and awareness, poverty, early marriages, demand for dowry, trafficking of women and children, mental and physical torture, sexual harassments are the main social risks that women are generally exposed to. During disaster and these risks increase manifolds during disaster. 	<p>lence against women increases but, only a few cases are reported. So, a group can be formed to collect and file complaints at the time of disaster.</p>
Service works for women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishment and maintaining of Day-care Centers ▪ Establishment and maintaining of Working women hostel ▪ Fund raising for supporting poor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Destroyed or dis-functional infrastructures, lack of security, scarcity of safe drinking water are major problems being faced by the Day Care Centers and working women hostels during disasters. Unsanitary and unhealthy environment prevails there also. Women hostels also face severe shortages in food supply during disaster time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Construction and/or reconstruction of Infrastructure. ▪ Disaster resilient construction should be ensured for all buildings and infrastructures of DWA. ▪ In case of rented premises, assessing resilience of the buildings against different hazards (specially Earthquake) before establishing office /shelter

Operational Cluster	Activities	Problems Identified	Suggested Remedies
	women and children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of security, loss and destruction of training materials, few or no attendance and unavailability of knowledgeable trainers or mentors are the main problems being faced by the Kishori Clubs (adolescent club) at the time of disasters. 	<p>Center/ training Center/hostels/ day-care centers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintaining steady food supply at the time of disasters. ▪ Help is needed from the local law enforcers to maintain security. ▪ DRM trainings should be provided to the persons involved with Day Care Centers and Kishori Clubs.

8.3 ANNEX-III: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS IN CONSULTATION WORKSHOPS

8.4ANNEX-IV: Information Collection Format

(Used for recording responses from Group Discussion)

Components of Disaster Risk Reduction Action Plan (DRRAP)

1. Defining Risk and Vulnerability
2. Managing Risk Environment

Group Discussion 01: Defining Risk and Vulnerability

Identification of Hazards, Vulnerabilities and Elements at Risk (would be used for Risk Profiling)

a. List Hazards (Natural and Man-Made)

SL. No.	Hazards	Type	SL	Hazards	Type
1			6		
2			7		
3			8		
4			9		
5			10		

(Use N= Natural, T= Technological, B=Biological in Types)

b. Identify Vulnerable Sectors where DWA operates

SL No.	Hazards	7 Operational Clusters eg. Training, microcredit, social safety net, etc

c. Vulnerable Elements (for all identified hazards)

Sl. No.	Hazards (eg., Flood, Earthquake, cyclone, etc)	Operational Clusters (eg. Training, microcredit, social safety net, etc)	Elements (eg., Physical resources and assets, human resources, operations, beneficiaries etc.)
1	Flood	Cluster 1	
		Cluster 2	
		Cluster 3	
		Cluster 4	
		Cluster 5	
		Cluster 6	
		Cluster 7	
2	Cyclone	Cluster 1	
		Cluster 2	
		Cluster 3	
		Cluster 4	
		Cluster 5	
		Cluster 6	
		Cluster 7	
3	Earthquake	Cluster 1	
		Cluster 2	
		Cluster 3	
		Cluster 4	
		Cluster 5	
		Cluster 6	
		Cluster 7	
4	Storm surge	Cluster 1	
		Cluster 2	
		Cluster 3	
		Cluster 4	
		Cluster 5	
		Cluster 6	
		Cluster 7	

d. Nature of Vulnerability

I. Physical Resources and Assets

Hazard (to be prepared for all hazards)	Total Destruction	Partial Destruction	Minor Destruction	No destruction
Flood	Reasons (eg., structural, locational)	Reasons	Reasons	
Cyclone				

II. Human resources

Hazard (for all identified types)	Death	Major Injury	Minor Injury

III. Operations

Hazard (for all identified hazard type)	Disruption Type eg., Total Disruption, partial disruption, No Disruption
Flood	
Cyclone	
Storm surge	
Earthquake	

IV. Beneficiaries

Sl. No.	Hazard Type: (should be prepared for all types of hazard)					
	Nature					
	Age group	Social status	Marital status	Religious/ethnic status	Economic Status	Locational status
1		H, UM, LM,P, EP	M,UM,W, D			

Note

e. Vulnerable Locations

Sl. No	Hazards	Specific Locations in this Division (District/Upazila)	
		Districts	Upazilla

g. Experience regarding climate change impacts

SL. No.	Events	Impacts Primary	Impacts Secondary
1	Increased Rainfall		
2	Decreased Rainfall/		
2	Increased hot spells/summer		
3	Increased/decreased winter		
4	Increased frequency of Cyclones		
5	Sea Level Rise		

Group Discussion 02: Managing Risk Environment

- i. Risk Analysis and Evaluation
- ii. Specific Risk Reduction Options and Action Planning

Risk Analysis and Evaluation

a. Risk Statement associated with the Hazards

Hazards	Risk Statement

b. Risk Factors DWA's Activities

DWA Elements	Risk Factor	Description

c. Risk of DWA's Projects (Sustainability Issues)

Projects	Risk	Causes

d. Risk Assessment

Risk	Consequences	Level of Effect in DWA	Risk Rating

e. Possible Actions

Risk	Possible actions to be taken by DWA

Specific Risk Reduction Options and Action Planning

a. Risk Reduction Options

Risk Statement	Risk Reduction Options	Existing Measures	Constraints

b. Impact of Options on DWA’s activities

Option	Impact to DWA

c. Activities that could be taken by DWA to address Climate Change Adaptability

Climate change adaptive activity	To address what Climate Change Impact		Would Impact which activity cluster of DWA?
	Primary	Secondary	

d. Draft Strategy Development

Action	Who will do	How	When	Where	Considerations

8.5 ANNEX-V: Disaster Risk Reduction Action Matrix

Pillar	Strategies	Activities	Indicator	Priority	Geographical Coverage	Target Group	Proposed timeframe	Collaboration With
Institutionalization	Adopt new or modify existing Charter of Duties of DWA to support DRR activities that encourage compliance with DRR efforts of National and International drivers.	Arranging meetings with high level officials for assessing required modifications in existing Charter of Duties of DWA to support DRR activities	No. of meetings held; meeting proceedings	Immediate	Head office	DWA Officials (All stakeholders)	01 year	MoWCA, DMB, CDMP
		Preparation of draft on modified Charter of Duties for DWA incorporating DRR activities on regular basis	Draft prepared	Immediate	Head office	DWA Officials (All stakeholders)	Within 01 Year	MoWCA, DMB, CDMP
		Taking approval of the government	Approval by the Government	Immediate	Head office	DWA Officials (All stakeholders)	Within 01 Year	Cabinate
	Update National Plan of Action for Women Development, 1999 including DRR activities in line with the policy guidance given in NWDP, 2011	Forming a committee with different stakeholders and arranging meetings to update National Plan of Action for Women Development, 1999 for including DRR activities in line with the policy guidance given in NWDP, 2011	No. of meetings held; meeting proceedings	Immediate	Head office	DWA Officials (All stakeholders)	Within 01 Year	DWACDMP, Jatiyo Mohila Sangshtha, Women organisations
		Preparation of draft on updated National Plan of Action for Women Development, 1999	Draft prepared	Immediate	Head office	DWA Officials (All stakeholders)	Within 01 Year	MoWCA, CDMP, Jatiyo Mohila Sangshtha, Women organisations
		Taking approval of the government	Approval by the Government	Immediate	Head office	DWA Officials (All stakeholders)	Within 01 Year	MoWCA
		Promote incentives for undertaking risk reduction and mitigation activities by partner organizations	Identifying risk factors and mitigation measures for partner organizations	Reports prepared by the partners	Medium term	All areas of operations	Partner Organizations	01-03 Years

Pillar	Strategies	Activities	Indicator	Priority	Geographical Coverage	Target Group	Proposed timeframe	Collaboration With
		Promoting development of projects and financing those projects by DWA	No. of projects developed and amount of fund released	Medium term	All areas of operations	DWA activities	01-03 Years	MoWCA, Relevant partner organizations
	Allocate sufficient financial resources for all level offices to conduct DRR activities	Preparing annual budget of DWA with provisions of sufficient funds for DRR activities	Amount of funds earmarked for DRR/year	Long term	Head office	DWA activities	03-05 years	MoWCA
		Seeking and arranging funding from national and international sources for conducting DRR activities through development of projects	No. of projects developed and amount of funding received/year	Medium term	Head office	DWA activities	01-03 years	MoWCA
		Making necessary budgetary allocations to all district and Upazila level offices	Amount of fund released to zonal offices for DRR activities	Medium term	Head office	DWA activities	01-03 years	MoWCA
		DRR activities should be properly planned and included in the annual work plan of all DWA offices	Providing Training DWA staffs for enabling them to prepare such plans	No. of trained staffs	immediate	Head office	All employees of DWA	Within 01 year
		Preparation of DRR incorporated annual work plans	No. of plans prepared	immediate	Head office	DWA activities	Within 01 year	MoWCA
	Recognizing the importance and specificity of local risk patterns and trends, decentralize responsibilities and resources for DRR activities to relevant district and Upazila level	Delegating financial and decision making responsibilities through updating allocation of business	Modified allocation of Business; type and no. of delegated responsibilities	Medium term	Head office	All stakeholders of DWA	01-03 years	MoWCA
	Systematically involve community in DRR activities of DWA, including in the process of decision-making, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation	Involving local people, elected local government representatives in local level DRR activities conducted by local offices of DWA	No. and types of involvement; no. of DRR activities conducted with community participation	Medium term	Upazila level DWA offices	Local leaders	01-03 years	MoWCA, MoLGRD&C, Local Government bodies, NGOs, CBOs
	Establish networking with local,	Establishing formal links with	No. of MoU signed	Medium	Head office	Related organ-	01-03	MoWCA, CDMP, DMB,

Pillar	Strategies	Activities	Indicator	Priority	Geographical Coverage	Target Group	Proposed timeframe	Collaboration With
	national and international organization involved in DRR activities	relevant ministries and agencies of GoB, NGOs, INGOs ,development partners, global platforms and academia and research institutions through signing MOU		term		izations of DWA	years	GFDDR, UNISDR,
Knowledge Management and Capacity Building	Identify, assess and monitor disaster vulnerabilities and risks of different resources, such as, existing office buildings, training centers, safe homes, day care centers, hostels, equipments etc.	Disaster vulnerabilities and risks assessment of different resources, such as, existing office buildings, training centers, safe homes, day care centers, hostels, equipments etc.	No. of assessments made	Long term	Head office and all local offices	Poor and vulnerable women	03-05 years	MoWCA, DMB, CDMP, MoLGRD&C, Universities and Research Organisations
	Identify, assess and monitor disaster vulnerabilities and risks of operations of DWA	Assessment of disaster vulnerabilities and operations of DWA	No. of assessments made	Continued	Head office and all local offices	All beneficiaries	continued	MoWCA, DMB, CDMP, MoLGRD&C, Universities and Research Organisations
	Identify, assess and monitor disaster vulnerabilities and risks of the beneficiaries in terms their lives and livelihoods and also their engagements in the different activities of DWA	Development of a structured information collection format	Developed format	Initiated	Head office and all local offices	All beneficiaries	01-03 years	MoWCA, Universities and Research Organisations
		Regular collection and analysis of socio-economic and health information of the service beneficiaries	Amount of data collected and no. of analyses made	Continued	Head office and all local offices	DWA officials	continued	MoWCA, Universities and Research Organisations
		Development of a central database and district level data bases	No. of databases created	Medium term	Head office and all local offices	DWA officials	01-03 years	MoWCA, Universities and Research Organisations
	Establish link with the scientists, DRM professionals, research organizations for accessing latest developments in this branch of knowledge	Arranging meetings with the scientists, DRM professionals, research organizations	No. meetings conducted/ year	Medium term	Head office, District level offices	DWA officials	01-03 years	MoWCA, Universities and Research Organisations, UNISDR
		Attending national and international trainings, seminars and symposia by the staff members	No. of attendees/ year	Medium term	All offices	DWA officials	01-03 years	MoWCA, Universities and Research Organisations, UNISDR

Pillar	Strategies	Activities	Indicator	Priority	Geographical Coverage	Target Group	Proposed timeframe	Collaboration With
	Establish mechanism to disseminate new information regarding DRR among the staff members	Regular coordination meetings with all staff members at least twice in a year Correspondence regarding new information	No. of meetings held; No of attendees No. of letter	Continued	District Head Office	DWA officials	01-03 years	DWA
		Publishing regular news letters	No. of news letters published	Medium term	Head office	All stakeholders of DWA	01-03 years	MoWCA
	Establish a research analysis wing with qualified professional to undertake in-house researches	Establish a modern data management system with modern software and hardware	Data management system established	Medium term	Head office	DWA officials	0-03 years	MoWCA
	Increase management capacity of the staff through regular management trainings along with trainings on disaster management	Assess existing human resource capacities of DWA for undertaking DRR interventions design and implement capacity-building plans and programmes for meeting ongoing and future requirements	Assessments made	immediate	Head office	DWA officials	Within 01 Year	MoWCA, MoFDM/DMB
		Prepare training manual for DRM trainings	Training manual prepared	immediate	Head office	DWA officials	Within 01 Year	MoWCA, MoFDM/DMB
		Provide DRM trainings to the DWA officials and staffs	No. Trainings provided; no. of attendee	Medium term	Head office	DWA officials	0-03 years	MoWCA, MoFDM/DMB
		Provide management trainings to DWA staffs	No. Trainings provided; no. of attendee	Medium term	Head office	DWA officials	0-03 years	MoWCA, MoFDM/DMB,BIAM,
	Trainings on basic life survival skills such as swimming, first aid, fire extinguishing should be given to all staff members, members of CBO/NGOs/Shomitees and beneficiaries	Prepare training manual related to life survival skills	Training manuals prepared	Immediate	Head office	All stakeholders of DWA	Within 01 Year	MoWCA, MoFDM/DMB
		Provide trainings to all existing and newly appointed staffs of DWA, members of CBO/NGOs/Shomitees and beneficiaries	No. attendees receiving trainings	Medium term	All offices	All stakeholders of DWA	01-03 years	MoWCA, MoFDM/DMB/Red crescent Society, BMA, FS&CD

Pillar	Strategies	Activities	Indicator	Priority	Geographical Coverage	Target Group	Proposed timeframe	Collaboration With
	Create necessary logistic support for facilitating DRR activities both for headquarters and local offices	Prepare an inventory of existing logistics and prepare a list for required logistic support	Inventory and procurement list prepared	Immediate	All offices	DWA officials	Within 01 Year	MoWCA
		Procure necessary logistics in accordance with requirement of each offices	Logistics procured	Medium Term	All offices	DWA officials	01-03 years	MoWCA
Increasing Resilience	Strengthen existing social safety net, micro credit and other credit programmes being implemented by DWA	Identification of problems through conducting a survey among the beneficiaries of the programmes	Surveys conducted and problems identified	Immediate	All I offices	DWA officials	Within 01 Year	MoWCA , research organizations, academia
		Redesigning the implementation mechanisms taking account of identified problems	Implementation mechanism redesigned and implemented	Medium Term	All offices	DWA officials	01-03 years	MoWCA
	Strengthen activities of protecting women against violence during disaster time and its aftermath	Increase logistic support and manpower for strengthening activities related to protection of women against violence during disaster time and its aftermath	No. of increased logistic supports and manpower	Long term	All offices	DWA officials	03- 05 years	MoWCA, DMB, MoL-GRD&C, local administration, law enforcers and judiciaries
	In most of the cases scarcity of pure drinking water becomes major problem for the women, small scale water supply projects can be under taken for lessening water crisis during disaster and its aftermath	Implementing water supply projects related to safe drinking water for women and children in time of disaster and after disaster	No of completed projects; project reports	Long term	Disaster prone regions, specially in coastal areas and flood prone areas	Poor women and children vulnerable due to disasters	03-05 years	MoWCA,DPHE, MoL-GRD&C
	Promote techniques for climate change adaptation in agriculture and small business which are major income generating occupation of the beneficiaries	Preparing Training manuals and imparting trainings on climate resilient agriculture and businesses	Training manuals prepared, No. of trainings conducted and number of trainees attended	Long term	Disaster prone agri-based regions specially Coastal areas		05 years	MoWCA,Ministry of Agriculture, DMB, MoL-GRD&C
	Promote diversified income options for populations in high-risk areas to reduce their vulnerability	Identification of alternative income options at high-risk areas.	Alternative options identified	Immediate	Disaster prone poor regions	Poor and Vulnerable women	Within 01 Year	MoWCA

Pillar	Strategies	Activities	Indicator	Priority	Geographical Coverage	Target Group	Proposed timeframe	Collaboration With	
	to hazards								
		Design different support programmes for alternative incomes	No. and size of such programmes implemented	Long term	Disaster prone poor regions	Poor and Vulnerable women	0-05 years	MoWCA	
	Promoting the development of financial risk-sharing mechanisms such as disaster insurance	Development and implementation of crop insurance and property insurance programmes	No. of programmes implemented and their coverage	Long term	Disaster prone poor regions	Poor and Vulnerable women	0-05 years	MoWCA, Insurance companies	
	Reconstruction of vulnerable physical infrastructures of DWA	Re-construction of the buildings identified as vulnerable due to different disasters following prescribed safety and design standards	No. of buildings reconstructed;	Mid term	Disaster prone regions	Poor and Vulnerable women	01-03 years	MoWCA, LGED, PWD	
	Construction of new buildings according to prescribed safety and design standards	Construction of training centers at less disaster vulnerable places in accordance to the National Building code	No. of buildings reconstructed	Mid term	In districts, where there is no such facilities exists	All stakeholders of DWA	01-03 years	MoWCA, LGED, PWD	
		Construction of shelter homes/ at less disaster vulnerable places in accordance to the National Building code	No. of buildings reconstructed	Mid term	In districts, where there is no such facilities exists	All stakeholders of DWA	01-03 years	MoWCA, LGED, PWD	
		Construction of employed women hostels at less disaster vulnerable places in accordance to the National Building code	No. of buildings reconstructed	Mid term	In districts, where there is no such facilities exists	All stakeholders of DWA	01-03 years	MoWCA, LGED, PWD	
	Cy and Awareness	Conduct advocacy to relevant government agencies so that they plan, design and construct urgently needed new infrastructure	Conducting formal and informal discussion with relevant govt. departments regularly	No. of such discussions held; official communications made	Mid term	Head office and District level offices	DWA officials	01-03 years	MoWCA, MoLGRD&C, PWD,RHD, LGED, City corporations, WASA, BWDB

Pillar	Strategies	Activities	Indicator	Priority	Geographical Coverage	Target Group	Proposed timeframe	Collaboration With
	(e.g., cyclone shelters, coastal and river embankments and water supply systems; urban drainage systems, river erosion control works, flood shelters) considering the specific requirements of the women	Conduct advocacy campaign to popularize the issue among general people, decision makers, local government members and donors	No. of such campaigns conducted	Mid term	All offices	All stakeholders of DWA	01-03 years	MoWCA, MoLGRD&C, PWD,RHD, LGED, City corporations, WASA, BWDB
	Publish IEC materials on DRRM for different disasters, for CBO/NGOs/Shomitees and beneficiaries	Prepare IEC materials on DRRM for different disasters, for CBO/NGOs/Shomitees and beneficiaries	No of such materials published	Medium term	Head office	DWA officials	01-03 years	MoWCA, MoFDM/DMB
	considering the specific requirements of the women	Provide training on DRM among all CBO/NGOs/Shomitees and beneficiaries	No. of trainings conducted; no of attendees	Medium term	All Offices	All stakeholders of DWA	0-05 years	MoWCA, MoFDM/DMB, academia, research institutions
	Strengthening WID activities for ensuring gender auditing and compliance in all development efforts designed for disaster risk reduction	Regular conduction of WID meetings	No. of meetings conducted	Long term	All Offices	All stakeholders of DWA	03-05 years	MoWCA, Related Ministries
	Design and implement awareness raising campaign on disaster risks and about 'dos and donots' during disaster considering the specific requirements of the women	Design awareness raising campaign on disaster risks and about 'dos and donots' during disaster	No. of different campaigns designed	Short term	Head office	All stakeholders of DWA	01 year	MoWCA, DMB, Ministry of Communication, Ministry of Education, Academic Institutions
		Implement the campaign through arranging, seminar, workshops and community level courtyard meetings, rallies etc	No. of campaigns conducted	Long term	All Offices	All stakeholders of DWA	01-05 years	

8.6 ANNEX-VI: List of the Reviewers

8.7 ANNEX-VII: Reviewers' Comments on the Draft DRRAP

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
মহিলা বিষয়ক অধিদপ্তর
৩৭/৩ ইস্কাটন গার্ডেন রোড, ঢাকা।

স্মারক নং-০১.০০০০.০০৯.০২.০৫৫.২০১১.৯৬

তারিখ : ১২/১২/২০১২

দুর্যোগ ঝুঁকি প্রশমন কর্মপরিকল্পনা বিশ্লেষণের লক্ষ্যে গঠিত সাব-কমিটির সভার কার্যবিবরণী :

গত ০৬.০৯.২০১২ তারিখ দুপুর ৩.০০ ঘটিকায় মহিলা বিষয়ক অধিদপ্তরের অতিঃ পরিচালক এর সভাপতিত্বে তাঁর কক্ষে মহিলা বিষয়ক অধিদপ্তর এবং CDMP-II প্রকল্পের সহায়তায় মহিলা বিষয়ক অধিদপ্তর কর্তৃক বাস্তবায়িত Addressing Gender and Risk Reduction Interface, DWA শীর্ষক কর্মসূচির খন্ডকালীন পরামর্শক কর্তৃক দাখিলকৃত দুর্যোগ ঝুঁকি প্রশমন কর্মপরিকল্পনা বিশ্লেষণের লক্ষ্যে গঠিত সাব-কমিটির এক সভা অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। সভায় উপস্থিত কর্মকর্তাবৃন্দের তালিকা “পরিশিষ্ট-ক” সংযুক্ত।

সভার শুরুতে সভাপতি উপস্থিত সকলকে স্বাগত জানিয়ে সভার কাজ শুরু করেন। সভায় উপস্থিত সকল সদস্যের মতামতের ভিত্তিতে কর্মপরিকল্পনাটির যেসকল তথ্য সংযোজন বা বিয়োজন করা হয়েছে তা নিম্নে উল্লেখ করা হলো :

Annex-III

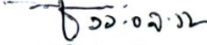
- i) Page 69 এর Activity column এ ‘Allowance for husband deserted destitute women and the widow’ Activity বাদ যাবে।
- ii) Allowance for poor pregnant and lactating mother দুটো আলাদা Activity হবে।
- Page 70 এর Page Problems identified column এর ৭ এবং ৮ নং level অর্থাৎ lack of policy guidelines to be followed during emergencies এবং No delineation of work jurisdiction of DWA বাদ যাবে।

Annex-IV

- নতুন একটি column Target Group সংযোজন করতে হবে, যেখানে উপকারভোগী উল্লেখ থাকবে।
- Evaluation criteria এর পরিবর্তে indicator কথাটি ব্যবহৃত হবে।
- collaboration column এ প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে DWA এর উল্লেখ থাকবে।
- Page 75 এ strategic ও Activities column এর 6th level এ hostel শব্দটি অন্তর্ভুক্ত করতে হবে।

- Page 76 এ
 - i) strategics column এর প্রথম level এ risk of কথাটি বাদ যাবে।
 - ii) priority column এ level-1 এবং level-2 তে medium term এর পরিবর্তে continued হবে।
 - iii) Activity column এ regular correspondence regarding new information নামে নতুন একটি level যুক্ত হবে।
- Page 77 এ
 - i) Activity column এর প্রথম ও দ্বিতীয় level বাদ যাবে।
 - ii) strategics কলামের দ্বিতীয় ও তৃতীয় level বাদ যাবে।
- Page 80 i) strategics কলামে 4th level delete করতে হবে।
 - ii) দ্বিতীয় ও পঞ্চম level - এ requirementsগুলো specific করতে হবে।
 - iii) শেষ level এ strategics column এ media campaign সংযুক্ত করতে হবে।

সভায় আর কোন আলোচ্য বিষয় না থাকায় সভাপতি সকল সদস্যকে সভায় উপস্থিত হওয়ার জন্য ধন্যবাদ জানান।


 (শামীমা হক)
 অতিরিক্ত পরিচালক
 ও
 সভাপতি।

বিতরণ :

- ১। মহা-পরিচালক, মহিলা বিষয়ক অধিদপ্তর, ঢাকা।
- ২। ডা. মোঃ আমিনুল ইসলাম, উপসচিব (সেল), মহিলা ও শিশু বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা।
- ৩। মনোয়ারা বেগম, উপ-পরিচালক (পসসস শাখা), মহিলা বিষয়ক অধিদপ্তর, ঢাকা।
- ৪। গুলশান জাহান চৌধুরী, সহকারী পরিচালক (পসসস শাখা), মহিলা বিষয়ক অধিদপ্তর, ঢাকা।
- ৫। শায়লা শহীদ, কমিউনিকেশন বিশেষজ্ঞ, সিডিএমপি-২, দুর্যোগ ব্যবস্থাপনা ও ত্রাণ ভবন, ৯২-৯৩, মহাখালী, ঢাকা।