



PROMISE, Bangladesh

Extension Program activities in Jamalpur City

1st QUARTER REPORT

Reporting Period: January-March, 2010

Implemented by:



Asian Disaster Preparedness Center

I. Project Description and Objectives

The PROMISE Jamalpur City project is being undertaken by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) in partnership with the Pourashava Authority of Jamalpur. Jamalpur City is located in Tangail region of North-Central Bangladesh. It has a total land area of 53.28 sq. km. and population of about 132,700. The city falls under the flood plains of Jamuna River and bounded by Brahmaputra river in the east. It is prone to various hydro meteorological hazards such as floods, cyclone, soil and river erosion and water logging. In 1998 and 2007, the city was badly affected by floods. In 1998 and 2007, the city was badly affected by floods.

With the successful implementation of SHOUHARDO Component 4 (SO4), in Jamalpur Pouroshava under SHOUHARDO program, the Pouroshava Disaster Management Committee (PDMC) has been strengthened to take up the responsibility to respond and anticipate potential threats with hydro-meteorological hazards. In SHOUHARDO program, focus is on effective measures on emergency response and the program has provided the foundation for city level disaster risk reduction activities and emergency response which need to be carry forward for mitigation, preparedness and advocacy. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) funds both SHOUHARDO program and the Program on Hydro-meteorological Disaster Mitigation in Secondary Cities (PROMISE). This gives the legacy to the USAID mission project to continue the effort on reducing the disaster risks.

The PROMISE Bangladesh project aims to reduce the vulnerability of urban communities through enhanced preparedness and mitigation of hydro-meteorological disasters in urban areas of Bangladesh.

The program will be implemented for the following specific objectives:

- Adoption of specific hydro-meteorological disaster preparedness and mitigation measures to manage hydro-meteorological disaster risk by stakeholders in targeted cities
- Increased stakeholder involvement and further enhancement of strategies, tools and methodologies related to community preparedness and hydro-meteorological disaster mitigation in urban communities
- Strengthen networks and links among relevant risk management institutions/organizations for improving the potential and the capacity of urban local authorities for application and dissemination of lessons learned

II. Summary of Accomplishments for the Reporting Quarter

Activity-1.3: Preliminary meeting with ward councilors, members and community of selected wards.

ADPC team visited the ward no. 1, 10 and 12 (selected wards for PROMISE activities) on 17 January, 2010 and conducted preliminary meeting in each ward with ward councilors, members and community peoples. The meeting covers two

objectives: first is to orient the communities about PROMISE objectives, activities and how ADPC will facilitate the activities in coming days with the active involvement of the community. The second is to draw a location map by the community of the respective ward to get a clear picture of the ward especially, to target the most vulnerable community due to flood.

Activity-2.3 (c): Identifying Community/Communities and Appropriate Livelihood Opportunities

On 17 January 2010, ADPC team carried out a FGD at the targeted communities in each selected ward to collect community level baseline data as well as to identify the existing livelihood pattern of the community. Through this FGD, it was also tried to explore the Livelihood Opportunities from the community perspective.

Activity-1.2: Monthly Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting.

The monthly Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting was conducted on 18 January, 2010. The main agenda of the meeting included following specific objectives:

- a. Discussion on role and responsibilities of the TWG.
- b. Discussion on existing Early Warning System related to Hydro-meteorological hazards.
- c. Discussion on establishment of Emergency Operation Center (EOC) and its function.

In the meeting, the TWG members were divided into three groups and assigned to work and discuss on following:

- a. Identify the existing EWS related to flood in Jamalpur.
- b. Identify the gaps or weakness in existing EWS.
- c. How community can be involved in developing EWS with the existing one.

All three groups provided detail information regarding the assigned issues related to EWS in Jamalpur.

Activity-1.6: Conducting detailed vulnerability analysis with community, volunteers and city officials and preparation of detailed community based risk maps for selected wards.

From 22 to 25 February, 2010 ADPC team conducted the flood vulnerability analysis and prepared the community based risk maps for ward no. 1, 10 and 12. Following activities were carried out for preparation of community based flood vulnerability maps:

Training to selected volunteers on CBDRR: On 23 February, 2010, day long training on Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) was organized for selected community volunteers. In the training, basic concept of Disaster Management, about PROMISE, its goal, objectives and activities, and concept, approach and process of CBDRR were covered. Flip Chart presentation and

interactive discussion was the method of the training. At the end of the training, a group of volunteers were prepared to conduct the community level risk mapping.

Community Risk Mapping: On 24 February, 2010, community risk mapping activities were carried out in ward no. 1, 10 & 12. The members of ADPC team separately facilitated to mobilize the community with the assistance of volunteers and respective ward councilors for carrying out the mapping activities in 3 different wards. In all three wards there was huge participation by the communities with full enjoyment in flood risk mapping and vulnerability assessment.

Community Based Climate Change Impact Risk and Resource Map: After preparation of community risk and resource map, an attempt was made to get community's perception on climate change and its impact related issues. Data on rainfall pattern, cropping pattern and input-output ratio, flood pattern and flood water level, earth rising pattern of houses, migration pattern due to flood, daily wage level pattern, livelihood pattern, health related problems, etc. in the last five years were collected through transect walk. These data will be analyzed and community based climate change impact risk and resource map will be prepared by reflecting the community's perception.

Validation of Community Risk Maps at Community Level: With the transect walk, the community risk maps were also validated at community level.

Activity-1.2: Monthly Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting.

The monthly TWG meeting was conducted on 25 February, 2010. The main agenda of the meeting included following specific objectives:

- a. Discussion on resolution of last TWG meeting.
- b. Sharing the experience of lady councilor who participated in training in Manila.
- c. Presentation on the community flood risk maps for validation.
- d. Presentation on the proposed (draft) CBEWS.
- e. Discussion about the establishment of EOC.
- f. Discussion about the incorporation of DRR issue in ADP of the Municipality.
- g. Discussion about the integration of flood vulnerability map with Land Use Map of the Municipality.

In the meeting, ADPC team presented the community risk maps of ward no. 1, 10 & 12 prepared by the community and explained the extent and level of flood vulnerability in terms of high, medium and low. All TWG members are in agreement about the community risk maps and validated it for further course of action.

The proposed (draft) CBEWS was also presented in the meeting and explained its mechanism from Upstream to Communities through the Municipality and vice-versa. The members discussed about the weakness or gaps of the existing EWS

related to flood in Jamalpur and appreciated the effort of ADPC through PROMISE to reduce the flood vulnerability in Jamalpur City if it takes in place.

Activity-2.1: Identifying strategy for contribution (labor/fund) from each community and other stakeholders in implementing activities.

From 14 to 17 March, 2010 ADPC team conducted preliminary meetings with the most vulnerable communities of 3 selected wards. Ms. Padma Karunaratne, Program Manager from ADPC joined the community level meetings. The purpose of the meeting was to identify the strategies for contribution from each community. It is observed from the meeting that almost 100% families of each community are willing to contribute in implementing the flood mitigation activities through both labor and funds.

Activity-2.3: Providing appropriate livelihood improvement in the wards.

From 14 to 17 March 2010, the team conducted preliminary meetings with the most vulnerable communities from ward no. 1, 10 & 12. Basic information of the communities like, number of household members comprising male and female, present occupation or source of income, activities used to perform during flood, alternative livelihood options in the community, past records of similar scheme, etc collected to identify the capacity of the community. Present occupation wise FGD was also conducted to identify their preferable livelihood options and opportunities. Initial CBO was formed for each community and orient them about the purpose and activities of PROMISE as well as DRR. Discussion with the CBO was also conducted for livelihood project proposal development.

Preliminary discussion was conducted with Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) who can be potential partner in implementing livelihood improvement project under PROMISE in Jamalpur.

Activity-2.2 (d): Establishing EOC at Pourashava.

On 21 March 2010, ADPC established the EOC in the room allocated by the Pourashava in its premises. The room is initially decorated with necessary logistics. Important information needs during the flood including the roles and responsibilities of Pourashava Disaster Management Committee (PDMC), ward level flood risk and resource maps, Pourashava land use map, etc. also displayed in the EOC.

USAID team visited the PROMISE site in Jamalpur Pourashava.

USAID team comprising Mr. Rob Friedman, Regional Advisor for South Asia, OFDA and Ms. Liza Mantilla, Senior Information Officer, OFDA visited the PROMISE site in Jamalpur Pourashava on 22 March 2010. The purpose of the visit was to observe the overall project implementation progress. ADPC team guided the visitors and explained the project implementation progress. The team met both the community and the Pourashava authority and discussed different issues from disaster management to governance. Both the visitors were quite impressed with the interventions ADPC has made so far in implementing the PROMISE in Jamalpur.

III. Planned vs. Actual Achievements

The activities planned for this quarter are mostly achieved, like vulnerability analysis, community based risk and resource mapping, preparation of community based early warning system, establishment of EOC, etc.

IV. Problems Encountered, New Opportunities and Lesson Learned

In fact, no problems encountered during this reporting quarter. Continuous support of Mayor of Jamalpur Municipality and other organizations like WDB, DDMC, LGED, DDMO, etc. and interest of the communities helped in achieving smooth implementation of PROMISE activities.

V. Achievement over Project Objective Indicators

- The meeting, orientation, training, risk and resource mapping, etc. will increase the awareness of the community about the flood risks and vulnerabilities and will help to strengthen their capacity to response.
- The CBEWS will strengthen the existing EWS of and will help to disseminate the flood warning from top to bottom.
- Alternative livelihood opportunities will help to continue the earning of the communities during flood and they will be able to response by themselves without depending on relief.
- Establishment of EOC will provide all information related to flood risk and vulnerability, available resources, capacity, roles and responsibilities PDMC, early warning related to flood, etc. which will help the community as well as the Pourashava authority to prepare in advance and reduce flood risks.

VI. Planned Action for Next Quarter

Activity-1.8: Pourashava action plan workshop to present and validate prepared ward level detailed risk maps and action plans for selected wards.

Activity-2.3 (b): Identifying potential CBO or NOG who can be potential partner in implementing livelihood improvement

Activity-2.3 (d): Defining strategy in providing livelihood opportunities and criteria for selection.

Activity-3.1: Conducting CBERC training for selected community groups.

Activity-4.3: Making recommendations to integrate DRR inline with development Plan of Pourashava

VII. Project Financial Status

Attached