





Disaster Risk Reduction



44 Disaster Management Committees



360 Disaster Response Groups



2,000 Youth Volunteers



11,818 Village Development Committee Members



134,506 Community members

NOBO JATRA - NEW BEGINNING

USAID'S Development Food Security Activity

INTRODUCTION

Nobo Jatra-New Beginning' is a five-year USAID Food for Peace Title II Development Food Security Activity implemented by World Vision Bangladesh, together with the World Food Programme and Winrock International, in partnership with the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) of the Government of Bangladesh (GoB).



856,116

Households

Participants



40



Sub-districts

Unions

Years

NOBO JATRA'S GOAL AND PURPOSES

Purpose 1: Improved nutritional status of children under five years of age, pregnant and lactating women and adolescent girls

Purpose 4:
(Cross-Cutting):
Improved social
accountability
and national
policy
engagement of
service provision
for vulnerable
men and women

Improved gender
equitable food security,
nutrition and resilience of
vulnerable people within
Khulna & Satkhira districts
in Bangladesh

Increased equitable household

Pupose 3: Strengthened gender equitable ability of people, households, communities and systems to mitigate, adapt to and recover from natural shocks and stresses





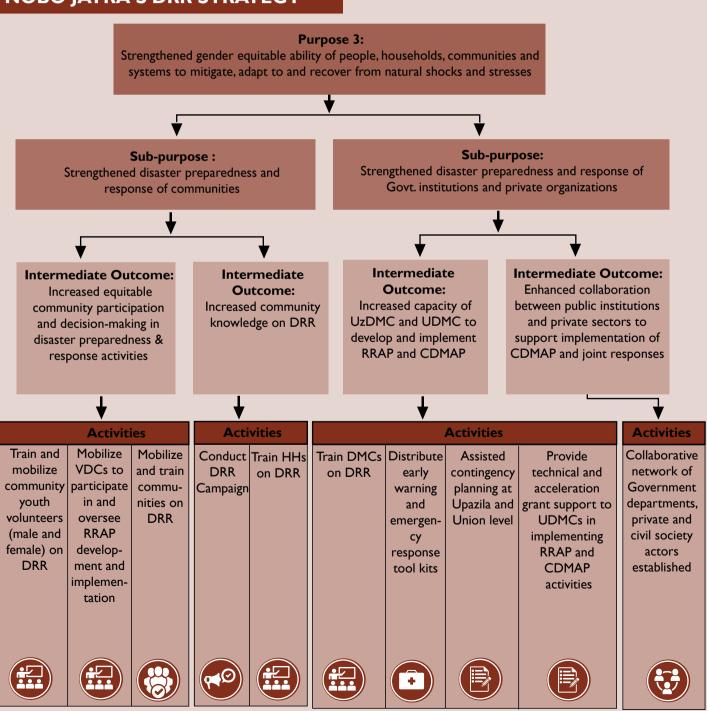
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION OVERVIEW IN SOUTHWEST BANGLADESH

Consistently ranked one of the most susceptible countries in the world to climate change, the context of risk in Bangladesh is shaped by unique geo-climatic conditions and frequent natural disasters. Situated in a low-lying delta with an average elevation of 4-5 metres above sea level, 70% of its land is exposed to flooding during heavy monsoons and together with India, Bangladesh accounts for 86% of all tropical cyclone induced fatalities.

The southwestern coastal region is frequently referred to as 'ground zero' where the consequences of climate change are severe compared to other parts of the country. Cyclones, tidal surges, floods and droughts are pervasive and climate change is expected to exacerbate the intensity and frequency with which these occur. Soil and water salinity levels are critically high and this has attendant implications on agricultural productivity, food security and nutrition.



NOBO JATRA'S DRR STRATEGY



NOBO JATRA'S INTERVENTIONS

Youth Mobilization

Youth volunteers trained on disaster preparedness, risk reduction, Community Risk Assessments (CRAs) and the development of Risk Reduction Action Plans (RRAPs) enabling them to provide disaster preparedness training to Village Development Committees (VDCs) and Ward Disaster Management Committees (WDMCs) and orient local communities on preparedness and responses.

Village Development Committee Mobilization

Nobo Jatra has established 622 VDCs in its intervention areas to play a critical role in community development, including DRR activities. Linkages with Union Disaster Management Committees (UDMCs) Ward Disaster Response Groups, with VDCs serving as key informants conducting oversight of RRAP development processes.

Community Mobilization and Training

Nobo Jatra developed guidelines to formulate household level preparedness plans and ensuring their implementation. Regular international day observances and simulation exercises increasing community knowledge on DRR.

Disaster Management Committee Training

Nobo Jatra works directly with the Union Disaster Management Committees and Ward Disaster Response Groups to enhance their capacity in disaster risk assessment and RRAP formulation. Selected members trained on participatory rural appraisal tools and techniques, community risk assessments, RRAPs and Comprehensive Disaster Management Action Plan (CDMAP) preparations so that they can facilitate these processes along with the youth volunteers groups beyond Nobo Jatra.

CROSS-CUTTING

Gender Integration

Recognizing gender as a critical factor impacting household food security, nutrition and resilience, Nobo Jatra has taken measures and established processes and benchmarks across all DRR interventions to promote inclusion and participation of women. These include ensuring at least 50% representation from women when mobilizing communities and selecting youth volunteers for participatory risk assessment, good governance and gender sensitivity trainings and empowering women to be part of local level institutions such as UzDMCs and UDMCs.

Governance and Social Accountability

With support from local government institutions such as DMCs and VDCs, the project is helping vulnerable populations reduce risk and build resilience. VDCs are raising awareness among wider audiences on sectoral government policies and standards and empowering rural populations to utilize processes from the Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) model. Meetings and dialogues are organized with district and sub-district level government stakeholders to promote collaboration between different committees, community-based organizations (CBOs) and NGOs.





67,000 people using climate information to improve climate resiliency

2,000 trained youth volunteers acting as change agents to orient communities on DRR issues

67 DRR schemes implemented by UDMCs with acceleration grant













80,044 (f: 45,222; m: 34,822) community people trained and have developed their household level disaster preparedness action plan

42 types of Risk Reduction Action Plan activities both structural and non-structural implemented

3.910 (m: 3,105; f: 805) Govt. DMC members trained on DRR

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