MPDS Project Brief

CARE, Gram Unnayon Sangathon (GRAUS) and Save the Children have been awarded a grant to implement a USAID/BHA funded Multipurpose Disaster Shelter Support (MPDS) Project. The MPDS Project was collaboratively designed and developed drawing upon lessons and experiences of past programming of involved organizations.

The Project goal is “Risk of natural disasters reduced, and community resilience increased”. To achieve its goal, MPDS focuses on the following 3 objectives all of which are fully integrated and interdependent.

Objective 1: Mitigate the impacts of natural disaster through construction of shelters and resilient community infrastructure

Objective 2: Increase access to spaces conducive to learning or cohesive communities

Objective 3: Strengthen disaster preparedness

The project is aligned with national, regional and international frameworks including the Government of Bangladesh’s (GoB) 7th five-year plan, SOD on Disaster (2019), and Sendai Framework for DRR and USAID Bangladesh 2020-2025 Country Development Cooperation Strategy. The project endorses the emphasis the plan places on gender, diversity and disability inclusive disaster management structures and mechanisms for increased resilience and DRR.

The MPDS project will be implemented in 4 Upazila (Moheshkhali, Kutubdia, Chakaria, Pekua) in Cox’s Bazar district and 3 Upazila (Bandarban Sadar, Lama and Naikhongchori) of Bandarban district. The project focus on community and stakeholder’s capacity strengthening on local hazards, management of multipurpose shelters and construction of maximum 25 multipurpose shelters in the project areas. The MPDS will follow a ‘para center’ approach that acts as the nucleus of basic social services in the community centers for people in disaster-struck areas. In some locations, the centers will double as quality learning spaces to provide children with a safe, stimulating and quality learning environment and to support them to become agents for disaster preparedness. Community and institutional capacity and awareness on disaster preparedness will be strengthened for future resilience.

All MPDS centers will be designed in accordance with the GoB National Building Code and Cyclone Shelter Construction, Maintenance and Management Policy (2011). Shelters that serve as community centers will be sized based on the assessed needs of the community; and schools to serve the demand in their respective catchment area, and as per the GoB’s Fourth Primary Education Development Program (PEDP4) Infrastructure Plan and Planning guidelines. This focuses on school infrastructure, WASH, disaster resilience, renewable energy, and security. It is expected that 200,000 peoples from the two most vulnerable districts (Cox’s Bazar and Bandarban) will be benefitting over 3.5 years of project life starting from October 1, 2020.