CARE Bangladesh is implementing the “Piloting and Expansion of Flood Preparedness Program (FPP)” in collaboration with NRP, DDM-Part. FPP has the potential to be a milestone in the disaster risk reduction (DRR) approach if we can institutionalize the model in the country, especially in the flood-prone districts.

Under the supervision of the Project Director of NRP & Project Manager of NRP-UNDP, DDM and in collaboration with IWFM of BUET, CARE Bangladesh is developing to pilot this strategic FPP model with a close relationship with the GoB local administration supported by its disaster management experience and strong operational presence in flood-prone districts.

**Project Snapshot**

**Project Duration:** 30 December, 2019 to 31 January, 2021 (with one month NCE)

**Funded by:** National Resilience Programme (NRP)-DDM Part, Department of Disaster Management

**Technical Assistance by:** United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

**Implementing Agency:** CARE Bangladesh

**Project Coverage:** 02 Districts, 04 Sub-districts and 20 Unions

**Objective:**

Building Flood Resilient Community through Enhancing Flood Preparedness, Coping and Response Capacity of the Community for Reducing Flood Risks, Losses and Damages in line with the Changing trends of the Flood Incidents.

- Formulate sustainable strategy for community driven Flood Preparedness Programme (FPP) in line with the example of CPP;
- Sensitize Disaster Management Committees (DMC) along with the vulnerable communities regarding FPP;
- Develop community volunteers for mobilizing community with regard to FPP;
- Enhance operational capacity of the volunteers of FPP;
- Strengthen flood early warning system and its dissemination at community level;
- Raise community awareness on flood preparedness in line with the changing trends of flood;
- Institutionalizing community driven Flood Preparedness Programme (FPP);
- Advocate with the policy makers for the adoption and promotion of FPP.
- Formulate draft institutional framework for FPP

**Targeted Areas for piloting**

Believing in the effectiveness of CPP, the Government of Bangladesh has planned and initiated Flood Preparedness Program (FPP) for reducing flood risks in flood prone areas. The Programme is being piloting in flood hotspots area of Jamalpur and Kurigram districts. Inhabitants of these frequently flooded zones suffer from extreme poverty, poor infrastructure and have limited access to government services and information handicapping their efforts to effectively deal with the impacts of recurrent floods. To complement the GoB’s efforts, CARE Bangladesh is happily providing consulting services for Piloting and Expansion of Flood Preparedness Programme (FPP) in the following districts:

**Start-up**

To kick off the project, 02 days durable staff orientation was arranged where staff from CDD and ESDO were present. A district level inception was arranged in Kurigram as well chaired by the Deputy Commissioner where the Project Director-NRP, Officials from District & Upazila administration, high officials from UNDP & CARE and different stakes were present.

**Consultation & Sensitization**

As a part of consultation and sensitization, CARE Bangladesh organized inception meetings with members of Upazila Disaster Management Committees (DMCs) and relevant stakeholders. We started off with kurigram district and due to COVID-19 the consultation in Jamalpur were done through Co-ordination meetings in multiple occasions.
Piloting and Expansion of Flood Preparedness Programme (FPP)

Forming Community Volunteers and Capacity Building
Under FPP, it is very important to select volunteers and formation of volunteer groups. We have successfully formed these volunteer groups and oriented them with the FPP model. Later on, these volunteers were able to participate in different response related actions led by respective UP and other relevant organizations. At a glance, FPP Volunteers and their coverages are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Locations</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Voluntees Trained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kurigram</td>
<td>Chilmari</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sador</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamalpur</td>
<td>Islampur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dewangon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1440</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Preparation of Flood Management Plan
CARE Bangladesh have also mobilized the volunteers to conduct CRA/RRAP in union level and prepared flood management plan for each working union. The flood management plans were prepared and validated by respective UDMC, local Got. Stakeholders and ward level representatives.

Activities in Snapshot

Coordination/ Linkage
Apart from forming volunteer groups and training them we have also coordinate with District and Upazila level administration, participated in different meetings and forums, day observation. We have regularly communicated with them to share the progress of the project. Apart from these, CARE has maintained internal coordination, coordination with NRP & UNDP as well as facilitated their visit in Kurigram. We have also coordinated with CDD & BDPC to conduct capacity building activities of UDMC and Volunteers.

Conclusion
While implementing, the project has faced some programmatic challenges. The programmatic challenges mostly came from COVID-19 induced mobility restrictions which CARE Bangladesh has dealt with adapted programming and dedication of FPP project staffers. The project has trained 1,440 FPP volunteers, conducted CRA-RRAP at the ward level and formulated actionable flood management plans with the participation of the local volunteers, community members and union disaster management committee in 20 unions of four upazilas in Jamalpur and Kurigram districts. CARE would like to acknowledge the support the project has received from NRP in this regard.