Community Development Initiative (CDI) Programme

The program has been supporting vulnerable communities of Kushtia, Magura, Nilphamari and Natore districts and providing appropriate knowledge and skills to enhance their capacities for reducing the risk of disaster. Under the program activities, communities are also facilitated with skill-based training and adequate health support to improve their current livelihood standard.

In May ‘12, the programme has completed construction of all 8 Community Information Centers (CIC). Hazard and resource maps of the target communities are displayed at the respective CICs in order to build awareness on disaster preparedness issues. To reduce the risk of disaster, training on disaster preparedness issues has been organised for Community Disaster Response Team (CDRT). Through the training, skill-based knowledge has been delivered for strengthening their capacities to respond during disaster. Through the program, disaster preparedness issues have been disseminated within 2252 community people.
At this stage, Community Program Committee (CPC), District Program Committee (DPC), Urban Disaster Response Team (UDRT), Community Disaster Response Team (CDRT) and also procurement committees have completed their monthly meeting for May.

Under Livelihood component, second phase of cash grant support is continuing for creating additional income generation for the beneficiaries and as part of this each of the 1334 beneficiaries has received BDT 5000 as Income Generation Activity (IGA) grant. With program assistance, bank accounts have been opened for all the beneficiaries for distributing the cash grant. Skill development training has been provided to women and girls over 18 years in order to increase their skills and capacities for additional income. A total of 180 unemployed women and young girls of the 04 districts have received skill-based training on handicraft and tailoring. A draft proposal on IGA has been finalised and placed with relevant authorities for approval. To generate social awareness on gender issues, courtyard meetings and cultural shows, addressing “Women Rights and Empowerment” issues, have been organised.

The program, under its Education component, has been facilitating a total of 54 adult literacy classes in 4 districts that is helping the literacy rate to be increased within the communities. The program is also providing incentives to the poor students in the program areas in order to increase their attendance in school and each of the students are receiving BDT 100 every month. In May ’17, incentives have been provided to a total of 600 poor students. Under WATSAN and SHELTER component, 44 tube-wells have been installed with high platform ensuring safe drinking water. For promoting hygiene issues, construction of sanitary latrine super-structure has been initiated. Construction of ring slabs is completed and a total of 1291 ring slabs have been distributed among the beneficiaries to construct sanitary latrine. The program is also facilitating beneficiaries with shelter support and a total of 176 shelters are under construction.

Under Health component, social awareness on mother & child health care issues is generated within communities by organising courtyard meetings. CDI program, in this regard, has initiated CBHFA courtyard meeting and organised 44
MCH meetings in total in the target areas. At this stage, the program, in collaboration with the GoB, has organised 06 mobile health camps in 03 districts and provided free medical treatment along with necessary health services to the beneficiaries. Difficulties in getting proper and timely information for procurement have been a challenge.

In May ’12, End of Term Review process for CDI program has been completed by external expert. As per program planning, May ’12 is supposed to be the last month for implementation of CDI program activities where the program has been running since May ’10. The program, considering some of its residual activities, has been approved to continue till Jun’12 to accomplish the remaining tasks.

Achievement
Construction of 08 Community Information Centers (CIC) is completed. Skill based knowledge on disaster risk reduction and response issues are communicated through CDRT training. Awareness on disaster preparedness issues have been disseminated within 2,252 community people.

A total of 1,334 beneficiaries have received IGA grants through individual bank accounts. Skill-based training on handicraft and tailoring has been provided to a total of 180 unemployed women and young girls of the 04 districts.

Total 600 poor students have received BDT 100 as incentive. 44 tube-wells have been installed with high platform and 1,291 ring slabs have been distributed among the beneficiaries to construct sanitary latrine. Free medical treatment is provided to the beneficiaries by organising 06 mobile health clinics in 03 districts.

End of Term Review of CDI program is completed. IGA draft proposal has been finalised and placed for approval.

Admin. Department

The department provides necessary services to BDRCS departments and personnel ensuring effective execution of activities. In May ’12, the department has issued ID cards for a total 200 employees of BDRCS and has provided business cards to 46 senior officers of the Society. Business cards and ID cards for other employees of BDRCS are underway to be provided soon.

To ensure security of the NHQ, the department is maintaining duties of the security guards on a roster basis. Beautification of the NHQ premise is continuing under supervision of the department. The department has organised BDRCS coordination meeting for the month of May, 2012.

Achievement
Business cards for 46 senior officials and ID cards for 200 employees have been provided.
Unit Affairs Department

The department has been supporting all 68 Branches of BDRCS with necessary coordination and technical assistance in their regular operations improving overall efficiency. In May ’12, the department has provided assistance to form Ad-hoc Committees for Narail and Satkhira Branches. The department has completed collection of monthly activity reports from all 68 Branches. May has seen enrolment of 102 Life members and 275 Annual members and certificates have been distributed among 195 Life Members. In addition, the department has collected an amount of BDT 72,600 as Share Money contributed by the members. Ad-hoc committee members are less interested to form Executive Committee (EC) through election process which is the major challenge for the department.

Achievement

Ad-hoc committees for Narail and Satkhira Branches have been formed to ensure their regular functionality.

Enrolment of 102 Life Members and 275 Annual Members is complete and certificates for 195 Life Members have been issued. The department collected BDT 72,600 as Share Money from members.

Fund Raising Department

Fund raising department every year organizes Fund Raising Dinner Party as a continuous mechanism to mobilize a considerable amount of fund for BDRCS. The party, in addition, provides BDRCS with the opportunity to extend collaboration with interested parties from both national and international ground in seeking possible funds.

Achievement

A total of five sub-committees have been formed to organize Fund Raising Dinner Party for 2012. The department collected BDT 47,575 by setting donation boxes and BDT 62,175 by selling souvenir items.

The department has initiated the process for arranging the party for the current year. To serve this purpose, five different sub-committees have been formed and approved by the BDRCS management in May ’12. The department has collected BDT 47,575 by setting donation boxes at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport and BDT 62,175 by selling BDRCS souvenir items. At this stage the department is communicating with new business firms and individuals regarding procurement of BDRCS souvenir items and setting of donation boxes to mobilize funds further. Response from potential sponsors is a major challenge for the department.
In May ’12, the department has developed 02 operation to promote the RFL initiative. The sets of questionnaires on capacity & needs assessment of tracing activities and placed them to ICRC for approval in collaboration with 10 other National societies. For use of use at the Branch level, the approved questionnaires have been translated into Bangla and shared with all 68 Branches of BDRCS.

A joint team comprised of representatives from ICRC and BDRCS has visited Narayanganj Branch office and provided necessary guidelines on completing RFL Needs Assessment activity to the Branch level employees and volunteers. During the visit, a meeting on RFL Needs Assessment was organised with the Branch Executive Committee members, ULO and RCY volunteers and total 25 participants were present at the meeting.

At the same time, the team also visited 6 district services. level government officials at Narayanganj and shared RFL activities of BDRCS seeking their co-

**Achievement**

Finalised RFL Needs Assessment questionnaire and the Bangla version of the questionnaire, and has shared with all 68 Branches.

Orientation on completing the questionnaire and necessary guidance has been provided to the ULOs, EC committee members, and RCY volunteers of Narayanganj Branch.

Services have been provided to 145 people including exchange of 44 RCMs, initiating enquiries for 02 lost persons, resolving 87 cases and providing 12 family notifications.

At this stage, personnel from Tracing department have visited central jail and met 10 Indian and Nepali detained nationals. They also visited Jail authorities and discussed current status of GoB assistance on repatriation of the detainees.

The department, as part of its routine activity, has provided support to a total of 145 people where they facilitated exchange of 44 Red Crescent Message (RCM), initiated enquiries for 2 lost persons, resolved 87 cases and served notifications for 12 families.

Attaining allowance for visiting Jail was a challenge for Tracing department. Lack of efficient human resource and improper infrastructure at the department are the major challenges for the department to ensure delivery of effective
**Risk Reduction through Empowerment of Women (RREW) Project**

In May ’12, the project has completed Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) in 12 villages covered under Dhalahar, Kazakati, Bankerhat and Dularhat MCH centres in Barisal, Pirojpur and Bhola district. Through VCA, specific information on vulnerability and capacity related to disaster risk reduction and health issues in the communities has been identified. VCA findings have been shared with Center Management Committee (CMC) members by organising meeting at the respective MCH centers. CMC members, in turn, will disseminate the findings within communities to raise awareness on vulnerability and thus build capacity on disaster preparedness and management.

A total of 9 RCY volunteers have facilitated the overall process of VCA and they, as member of VCA pool, have received appropriate, hand on knowledge in conducting VCA. At this stage, regular meeting with UEC members, ULO and RCY volunteers is held at Bhola and Pirojpur Branches. Time constraint and a lack of support from CMC members were the major challenges to conduct VCA.

**Achievement**

Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) in 12 villages under 04 MCH centers have been completed. VCA findings have been shared with communities.

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**Personnel Department**

The department has been providing regular support to BDRCS employees like promotion, inter-department transfer, annual increment, resignation, new staff recruitment etc.

**Achievement**

Inter-department transfer for 10 employees, recruitment of 06 employees under Health program, annual increment for 07 employees and regular employment for 07 persons have been completed.

In May ’12, the department has arranged inter-department transfer for 01 officer including 09 other staffs of NHQ and they are suitably placed at various other sections under Health program. For the same program, the department has also completed recruitment process for 04 positions and contractual appointment of 02 personnel. At this stage, the department has arranged annual increment for a total of 07 employees including officers and staffs. Necessary assistance has been provided to one officer and 06 staffs to be a mainstream employee of BDRCS in accordance with HR policy.
In May ’12, the department has organised “Basic First Aid Training” for a total of 77 employees of Plan Bangladesh, American and Efird (Bangladesh), Tullow and Lafarze Surma Cement. The training has conducted 04 courses on First Aid issues where 02 in Dhaka, one at Gazipur and one at Sunamgonj. The training has provided theoretical as well as practical knowledge on basic First Aid and RCRC movement to the participants.

Lack of adequate technology and equipment support is the major challenge for Training department in ensuring quality services. A lack in adequate human resources is another challenge in providing quality services.

The department has also delivered “First Aid Refresher” training to 12 employees of Tullow. A total of 15 employees from Transparency International, Bangladesh have received orientation on First Aid issues. The department has organised “Disaster Risk Response” training in Chittagong for 20 employees of Handicap International. Skills-based knowledge has been delivered to the participants for strengthening their capacities to reduce the risk of disaster and to respond during disaster. “Search and Rescue” training has been arranged in Chittagong by the department for 48 employees of Handicap International and Fight for Hunger. The training has provided theoretical and practical knowledge on search and rescue issues to the participants.

**Achievement**

Trainings like “Basic First Aid Training”, “Orientation on First Aid” and “First Aid Refreshers” have been organised and basic knowledge on First Aid issues & RCRC Movement has been communicated to a total of 104 external professionals.

Skill based knowledge on disaster risk and response has been provided to 20 personnel through “Disaster Risk and Response Training”.

A total of 48 professionals from different organisations have received theoretical and practical knowledge on search and rescue issues.
The department is maintaining close relationship with relevant stakeholders both in and out of BDRCS creating wider visibility and greater recognition of the BDRCS RCRC Movement. For effective communication, the department is using various modes of communication extending rapport with national and international media agencies. In May ’12, the department has taken various initiatives for wider communication of various activities performed by BDRCS to observe 8 May—the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day.

As part of that, on 7 May ’12, the department organised a press conference at the National Press Club for representatives of both national and international media agencies. At the press conference, detailed activities undertaken by BDRCS to observe the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day was shared with the participants. This provided a great opportunity to seek media cooperation for wider coverage of activities. The department published a special supplement on 8 May including valuable messages given by the Honorable President and the Honorable Prime Minister. The supplement has been communicated through various daily newspapers like the Daily Jugantor, the Daily Jaijaidin, the Daily Naya Diganta, the Daily Samokal, the News Today, the New Nation and the Financial Express.

On the day, the Hon’ble Chairman of the Society addressed the nation through the national media—Bangladesh Television and Bangladesh Betar. Communication department has organised a live talk show with BDRCS Chairman that has been broadcasted through in-country media ATN Bangla, Channel-i and Diganta Television. During the talk show, a documentary, depicting the humanitarian endeavors continued by BDRCS over the last forty years, has been telecasted. The entire celebration of World Red Cross Red Crescent Day has got wider exposure through news coverage on Bangladesh Television, Diganta Television, Channel-i, NTV, Independent TV, Somoy, Desh TV, ATN News, ATN Bangla, Islamic TV and My TV. Media coverage for activities of the day was managed free of cost.
Planning & Development (P&D) Department

In May ‘12, the department has completed producing the report for the last quarter of CRC Phase-I and have sent to the appropriate authority. Budget for CRC Phase-II has been prepared after consultation with the Federation and will be sent to the appropriate authority in KL. A mission team, comprising of representatives from the Joint Statues Commission (JSC) of IFRC-Geneva, IFRC-KL and ICRC-KL, will be visiting Bangladesh from 17-21 Jun ’12 regarding an In-

In addition, P&D Director has been nominated as the Focal Point of BDRCS for OCAC Global Facilitator Training and attended the training held in Manila from 23-25 May ’12. The department has provided overall assistance in organising two-day long Youth Chief Workshop for the representatives of all 68 Branch/Unit level youth leaders for strengthening their capacity to facilitate branch level planning process in alignment with BDRCS Strategic Plan for 2011-15.

The department has also supported in organising various events on celebrating World Red Cross Red Crescent Day including press conference, rally, photo exhibition, discussion and prize giving ceremony. Other than these, assistance has been provided in the process of selecting suitable personnel for Red Crescent Award-2012.

Achievement

Last quarter report for CRC phase-I is completed and communicated with appropriate authority.

P&D director has been nominated as the Focal Point of BDRCS for OCAC Global Facilitator Training and attended the meeting in Manila.

Process for the second phase of cubicle renovation is completed.

Renovation of seating arrangement for ICT Section has been completed and the section is inaugurated formally through a grand opening ceremony. The section has already moved into new seating arrangement. The process for secong phase of cubicle renovation has been completed and the contract has been awarded to the lowest bidder through tender process.
Planning, M&E and Reporting (PMER) Section

At this stage, the process for hiring consultants for Developing Branch level 4-years Plan and also for Branch Operation Manual is completed and consultants for both the tasks will be loaded to the website. The agreement will be signed by the end of Jun ’12. The consultants will start working from 01 Jul ’12.

The final text of BDRCS Strategic Plan (SP) for 2011-2015 is underway to be printed bilingually. At this stage, translation of SP final text into Bangla is completed and the text has been communicated to the desktop publisher. Design of SP is underway to be developed by the publisher.

BDRCS Monthly Activity Report (MAR) for Apr ’12 has been published. The distribution of MAR from Dec ’11 to Apr ’12 is underway. Upgrading BDRCS website is continuing and news bulletins on various events are being uploaded regularly to the website. Compilation of the contents for NHQ based individual department is underway to be uploaded soon. The agreement will be signed by the middle of Jun ’12. The consultants will start working from 01 Jul ’12.

Achievement

Hiring consultants for Developing Branch level 4 Years Development Plan and Branch Operations Manual is completed.

The design of BDRCS Strategic Plan is in process to be developed by the publisher. Monthly Activity Reports (MAR) for the months of Nov ’12, Dec ’12, Jan ’12, Feb ’12, Mar ’12 and Apr ’12 have been published.

BDRCS website has been updated with event based news bulletins.

Other than these, PMER Section has facilitated the process of organizing Photo Exhibition on World Red Cross Red Crescent Day by providing in-depth support in collecting related information on the selected photos from various sources and composing suitable captions for those photos. The Section has provided required technical assistance to prepare relative documents on BDRCS Legal Base for the upcoming JSC Mission visit. The section provides support in compiling meeting minutes for the Coordination Meeting of RCRC Movement partners namely as IFRC, ICRC, BDRCS, British Red Cross, German Red Cross and others. At the Youth Chief Workshop 2012, organised by the Youth & Volunteers department, Md. Bobby Sabur, Sr. Officer, PMER has

ICT (Information & Communication Technology) Section

Computers and IT equipment, under Digital Divide project, have been distributed to 06 Branches - Sirajganj, Magura, Jessore, Moulavibazar and Brahmanbaria in presence of the Hon’able Cahirman of the Society and the HoD of IFRC through a ceremony.

Achievement

Computers with necessary IT equipments have been distributed to 06 Branches under Digital Divide project. ULOs of those Branches have completed two-day long “Basic ICT Orientation” and received orientation on basic usage of computer.
This has been set forth as the first step of the Society to enhance Branch capacities through providing IT equipment where BDRCs intends to keep the distribution of computer going, gradually covering all 68 branches. ICT section has completed a two-day long “Basic ICT Orientation” for the ULOs of those 06 Branches and provided orientation on the basic usage of computer.

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### Important Contacts (queries and grievances)

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