Strengthening Trans-Border Resilience to Flooding in India and Nepal

Results

- Implemented **Early Warning Systems (EWS**) to raise community awareness, preparedness and responsiveness to the severe impacts of annual flooding on residents' livelihoods. The project reaches nearly 52,000 people living in the Koshi/ Gandak river basin.
- Promoted **cross-border flood risk reduction practices** in 136 villages situated along the India- Nepal border.
- Provided communities with **lifesaving tools** such as sirens, mobile phones, megaphones, radios, flags, ropes, life jackets, boats, flashlights and temporary stretchers.
- Facilitated the collaboration of project participants, local governments and community based organizations **across the Nepal and India border** in the development of practical processes for **communicating real-time flooding information** from upstream to downstream.
- Communities reported a **50% improvement** in the real-time flood warning information traveling downstream- from 48 hours to 24 hours.
- Organized 58 **Village Disaster Committees (VDC)** composed of early warning, first aid, search and rescue and rehabilitation groups uniformly trained in disaster risk reduction (DRR). Each VDC has developed a **DRR plan of action**.
- Trained 6,119 individuals in **DRR and EWS** to increase community disaster awareness and preparedness.
- Conducted 29 trainings on **resilient livelihood strategies**, such as growing flood resistant crops.
- Formed or strengthened 107 **community-based self-help groups** to promote savings and improve access to credit, thereby **increasing financial security and resilience** to financial stresses.
- Developed a novel indicator-based **tool for measuring resilience** in partnership with Yale University.

QUICK FACTS

Every year during the monsoon season, communities in the Koshi/ Gandak river basin are subjected to severe floods, which kill people, livestock, and crops as well as impede further development in the region.

Lutheran World Relief (LWR), in collaboration with Grameen Development Services, BIKALPA, Dan Church Aid, Lutheran World Federation and Integrated Development Foundation, is **assisting these flood-prone communities located along the India- Nepal border** in strengthening their resilience to natural hazards.

This project builds on previous work completed during a pilot project from 2013-2014.

LWR' has worked in India since the 1950's and in Nepal since 2009 to break the cycle of poverty for the most marginalized populations, including tribals, women and Dalits, through programs in agriculture and food security, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, and emergency response.

PARTNERS: SAHAMATI, Grameen Development Services, Integrated Development Foundation, Lutheran World Federation

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