

RESILIENCE

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National Resilience Programme (NRP)
Programming Division Part
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Programming Division
Bangladesh Planning Commission

Expert Opinion in NRP Workshop

Resilient Supply Chain Required to Cut Economic Loss

Bangladesh needs to put in place a supply chain that is resilient to natural calamities and the impacts of climate change in order to cut economic losses, said experts and entrepreneurs in a inception workshop of a study on Supply Chain Resilience of RMG sector in Bangladesh organized by National Resilience Programme (NRP) of the Programming Division of Bangladesh Planning Commission. Mr. M A Mannan MP, Honourable Minister, Ministry of Planning joined the programme as Chief Guest and Dr. Rubana Huq, President, BGMEA was present as special guest. Mr. Md. Nurul Amin, Secretary, Planning Division chaired the session. Dr. Nurun Nahar, Deputy Chief and Project Director, NRP rendered welcome address. Representatives from different ministries, business community, research organizations, diplomatic missions and NGOs participated in this workshop.

NRP Consultant team shared the inception report, where it was mentioned that, economic costs of natural disasters are high due to a lack of resilience to climate change and natural calamities. The floods of 1987, 1988, 1998, 2004, and 2007 inflicted a loss of \$8.4 billion on the economy, while cyclones Sidr, Aila and Bulbul caused a loss of around \$6.5 billion. So, this is important to assess the disaster risks in industries and promote business continuity plan in order to minimize the risks.

The study will look out the present status of disasters and climate risks in the garment sector supply chain, impact of disaster risks and how the risks can be minimized.



Speaking as Chief Guest the Planning Minister Mr. M A Mannan said not only garments but pharmaceuticals and agricultural sectors also need a strong supply chain for higher growth. However, we have resource constraints and other challenges. We need adequate infrastructure to maintain a good supply chain- he added. The minister mentioned that, the government has built many infrastructures and is thinking of building an expressway as alternative to single-road Dhaka-Chattogram highway.

Addressing as Special Guest Dr. Rubana Huq, President of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), reminded all that supply chain



management and resilience needs are in all sectors, not only in the garment sector. Moreover, the garment sector has taken many steps in the last few years. However, small and medium companies are at risk, so, they should be taken into account - she added.

In complimentary remarks, Mr. Md. Khurshid Alam, Assistant Resident Representative, UNDP Bangladesh emphasized on private sector engagement for resilience business and shared global scenario of supply chain disruption due to disaster. He urged for collective efforts for resilient supply chain mechanism in RMG and other priority area of investment.



Mr. Reza Md Shehab Uddin Sharawardi, Vice-President of the Bangladesh Supply Chain Management Society said, "the RMG sector is fully focused on China, Hong Kong and some other countries for importing accessories and fabrics. We need to overcome this dependency, at the same time we must look after disaster, infrastructure and skilled manpower. For smooth supply chain we must address these issues."

Mr. Md. Mohsin, Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief described how Bangladesh has been successful to reduce life-loss in natural disasters. However, economic loss is still a subject of concern, he added. He also referred revised SOD for resilience in private sector.

Mr. Khorshed A Khastagir, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs mentioned that MoFA is running Bangabandhu - Cambridge Program for promoting research on Bangladesh economy, where knowledge partnership for Supply Chain Resilience between NRP and Cambridge University can be established. This partnership could help in policy simulation and global branding of Bangladesh RMG from resilience perspective.

He also mentioned that, the study of supply chain, should not limit our focus within Bangladesh, rather it should cover global perspective.

Mr. Md. Nurul Amin, Secretary of the Planning Division, said that, country is developing its own resilience system to tackle natural disasters. "In supply chain management, the country is trying to ensure more infrastructures." He also mentioned that, the Government of Bangladesh has built Payra Port and is expanding the capacity of the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport. A new airport will also be built, he added.



In the open discussion, the participants suggested to narrow down the scope of study, find out detail supply chain including local and global nodes and utilization of GIS based information and sharing the draft report with stakeholders.

In closing remarks, Mr. Md Khalilur Rahman Khan, Chief of the Programming Division emphasised on investment, modern technology, institutional capacity, human capital and coordination among all government agencies to have a sustainable resilience. ■

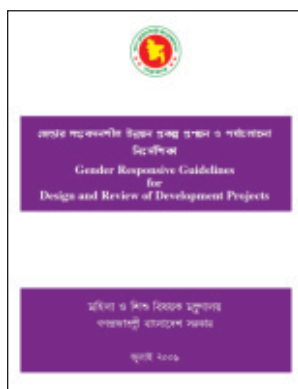
Partnership Building

NRP moves for an MOU with a2i Project

NRP-Programming Division is going to have a technical partnership with a2i project of ICT Division for establishing Disaster Risk Information Platform (DRIP) in Programming Division. Under this partnership agreement a2i (newly named Aspire to Innovative Programme) will provide technical assistance for guiding the contracted firm and overall supervision of technical aspects. In this regard, Project Directors level meeting was held on 21 October 2019 followed by technical presentation by a2i technical team on 17 December at Programming Division. The DRIP will equip the planning professionals providing necessary data and information for conducting disaster and climate related risk and vulnerability assessment, potential climate change adaptation options as well as disaster risk mitigation measures to address identified risks and vulnerabilities caused by the project and also available in project implementing areas. ■

Retrospection on the Gender Responsive Guidelines for Design and Review of Development Projects

NRP Programming Division and NRP -Department of Women Affairs Part jointly organized a workshop on the Gender Guideline for Development Project Proforma (DPP) on 12 December 2019 at NEC Committee Room to identify potential areas which need to be addressed in the gender guideline and for its revision. Mr. Md. Khalilur Rahman Khan, Chief, Programming Division chaired the session and Dr. Md. Amzad Hossain, Joint Chief of Programming Division rendered address of welcome.



In his introductory remarks, Mr. Md. Fakhru Kabir, Director, Department of Women's Affairs and Project Director, NRP-DWA Part referred a previous workshop held on 22 May 2019 where study findings on gender responsiveness in three development projects were shared. That meeting suggested for revision of

the gender guideline for addressing gender issues more effectively in development process.

Mr. Md Mokhlesur Rahman, Consultant for UN Women presented ideas and thoughts on the issue to Gender Responsive Guidelines for Design and Review of Development Projects. He mentioned following challenges with this guideline;

- i. There is a lack of comprehensive understanding among officials in addressing Gender Responsiveness in DPP due to absence of proper training on Gender Responsive Guidelines for Design and Approval of DPP.
- ii. There is a common misunderstanding that gender equality is not relevant for some sectors, the guideline is not applicable for these sectors to assess gender responsiveness during approval stage;
- iii. In many cases, gender analysis is not considered during early stage of project implementation, it is not reflected adequately during feasibility study and thus in context analysis and log-frame.
- iv. The Guidelines for Design and Approval of DPP clearly mentioned about five areas of DPP format where gender issues should be considered.
- v. Systematic methods and structure are not followed to comply with gender responsiveness during design, formulation and approval of DPP.
- vi. Overall monitoring and accountability mechanism are not strong enough to track gender sensitivity.
- vii. Follow up process is not in place though a circular on pursuing the Gender Responsive Guideline for Design and Approval of DPP was circulated in 2009.
- viii. Overall monitoring role of Ministry of Women and Children Affairs as the lead ministry for Women in Development (WID) is not visible.



In open discussion, the participants made following recommendations

- Introduce gender indicators and measurement scales
- Prepare a short write up how gender issues are addressed in this project during submission of proposal. Both direct

and indirect impacts should be taken into consideration and how a specific project is contributing to achieve gender equality.

- Institutionalize the lead role of MoWCA for ensuring gender responsiveness of development project.
- Develop sector specific indicators for gender

responsiveness.

- After approval of guidelines, MOWCA needs to take adequate measures to circulate it across all ministries.
- Selected DPPs can be collected and reviewed to understand how gender issues have been incorporated. ■

Private Sector Engagement for Resilient Business

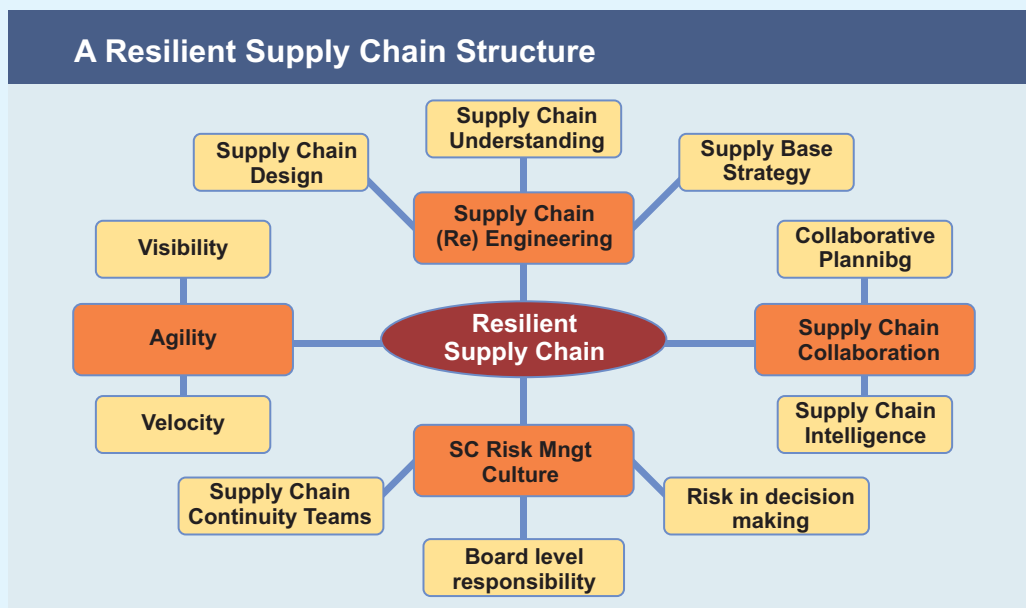
In November 2019, a workshop on **Private Sector Engagement for Resilience Business** was organized and participated by the multi-stakeholders. Mr. Md. Sayduzzaman, Joint Chief of Programming Division presided over the session. Mr. Md. Nurul Amin, Secretary, Planning Division and Member, Programming Division attended the workshop as Chief Guest. Dr. Nurun Nahar, Deputy Chief and Project Director shared background information on how NRP plans to engage with private sector on the issue of resilient business. She mentioned that, NRP has initiated a study on Supply Chain Resilience of RMG Sector in consultation with BGMEA and plans to promote business continuity plan for facilitating risk informed business practices. The project is also developing Risk Profile for Chottogram City Areas, she added.

The keynote paper was presented by Dr. Mahfuz Kabir, Director (Research), BIISS where he stressed the fact that, despite tremendous achievement in disaster management in

Bangladesh, still disaster damages and loss due to climatic event is a major concern. At the same time disruption of industrial production and services value chains within and across the border is considered as an emerging risk. For a resilient supply chain structure Dr. Kabir emphasized on understanding of supply chain, supply base strategy, supply chain collaboration, supply chain intelligence, risk indecision making, supply chain continuity teams and velocity.

He also suggested for disaster vulnerability assessment, resilience need assessment of the industry sector, analysis of value chain susceptible to disasters and climate change, continuous readiness plan encompassing its suppliers including emergency response plan, business continuity plan and strengthen supply chain and risk management.

On the other hand, Dr. Khondoker Golam Moazzem, Research Director of Center for Policy Dialogue drew attention on supply



chain resilience of some other sectors for addressing the issue comprehensively. He mentioned that, as supply of raw materials is seriously disrupted due to disasters and precaution must be maintained and disaster risk reduction should be kept in mind for establishing industrial units in river erosion areas.

Participants took active part in the open discussion and proposed following issues for consideration;

- Develop sector specific risk profile
- Consider gender issues in making risk profile
- Prepare earthquake response plans by the private sector management
- Consider Business Continuity Plan (BCP) for special economic zones

In his closing address, Mr. Md. Nurul Amin, Secretary, Planning

Division appreciated NRP initiative to promote resilience in private sectors. He added that private sectors is one of the major contributor in SDG implementation, so this sectors should be resilient. He emphasized on effective coordination with the private sectors for running resilience initiatives. ■



Training on Trainers (ToT) on Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction



Eminent academicians and disaster management professionals conducted training sessions. The course included sessions on Disaster and Development Nexus, Approaches and Steps of Mainstreaming DRR, Sendai Framework of Action for DRR, Gender Mainstreaming, Linking DRR with SDGs-Experience from 7th Five Year Plan, Legal Framework of Disaster Management, Key features of Revised SoD, Climate Change Adaptation in Bangladesh, Mainstreaming DRR in Macro-level Planning, Resilient Infrastructures and Social Inclusion in Disaster Management.

Mr. Shah Kamal, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief was Chief Guest in the closing session and awarded certificate among the participants. Mr. Md. Mohsin, Additional Secretary, MoDMR was present as special guest. He appreciated the training curriculum and participation from national level training institutions.

As part of promoting mainstreaming disaster risk reduction, NRP Programming Division Part organized a ToT for trainers of national level training institutes and faculty members of the Department of Disaster Management in public universities. The ToT was held from 09-13 November 2019 at Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission Training complex, Savar, Dhaka where 20 participants took part. Mr. Md. Nurul Amin, Secretary, Planning Division inaugurated the course.

The feedback from participants showed that 57% ranked the course as Excellent, 38% marked as Very Good and 05% expressed overall satisfaction over the course. ■

Grassroot Resilience: Voices from the hotspots

During the last part of 2019, NRP-Programming Division organized workshop in hotspot areas as identified in Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 for capturing community need



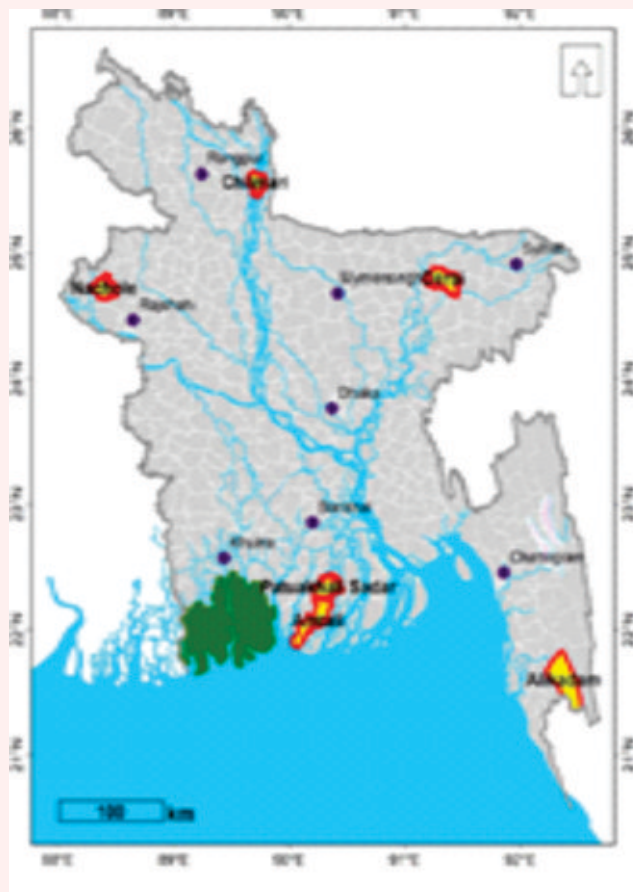
on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). Findings of the workshop will be submitted to General Economics Division as background information for the 8th Five Year Plan. During November 2019 -January 2020, 6 workshops were held at Amtali Upazila of Barguna, Patuakhali Pourashava, Nachol Upazila of Chapainawabganj, Chilmaru Upazila of Kurigram and Alikadam Upazila of Bandarban district, and Derai Upazila of Sunamganj district.



During these workshops, the members of Upazilla Disaster Management Committee (UDMC) and Union Disaster Management Committees analyzed the local disaster scenario and expressed their need to reduce the risks of losses due to disasters.

Elected representatives, officials from local administration and community leaders also attended these workshops. They suggested some novel actions at local level and recommended some issues to integrate in long term plans by the concerned ministries.

Dr. Golam Mahboob Sarwar, NRP Consultant and local experts facilitated the workshops. Following the field level consultations, a national dissemination workshop took place on 30 January 2020 to share the key findings. It is expected that an updated report integrating the various observations in the national event, will be available in last week of February. ■



Disaster Impact Assessment (DIA) to be introduced in Planning Process

National Resilience Program is supporting Programming Division to introduce Disaster Impact Assessment (DIA) in project planning and approval process. The project has engaged two consultants on this assignment in October 2019. In this connection, DIA Inception Workshop was held on 14 October 2019 where the consultants shared their work plan and received feedback from the stakeholders. The Programming Division has formed a technical committee to guide the consultants and series of discussion are being organized with different GoB agencies and NGOs working for disaster management for capturing their views and expectation on DIA. Based on extensive literature review and findings from Key Informant Interview (KII) a knowledge sharing workshop was

held on 19 December 2019 at NEC Committee room with Mr. Md. Khalilur Rahman Khan, Chief, Programming Division in the chair. Mr. Md. Nurul Amin, Secretary, Planning Division attended the meeting as Chief Guest.

In the meeting Mr. Md. Mohsin, Additional Secretary MODMR and the National Project Coordinator of NRP expressed satisfaction on the approach taken by the consultant team and appreciated the NRP -Prog Division initiative to make the DIA tools formulation successful. The consultants have completed successfully the KIIs with MoDMR, DDM, DWA, DAE, BWDB, RHD, DDM, Members of Planning Commission, Secretary Planning Division, UN agencies, INGOs and civil society organizations. ■



Project Steering Committee Meeting

The 3rd Meeting of Project Steering Committee (PSC) was held on 23 October 2019 with Mr. Md. Nurul Amin, Secretary, Planning Division in the chair. The meeting reviewed the progress of the project and discussed key issues for revision of TAPP and on principal agreed revision in some areas.

AWP 2020 approved

Annual Work Plan (AWP) 2020 has been approved by UNDP along with the procurement plan, gender action plan and communication plan. Total planned expenditure estimated as 1.47 million USD for 2020.

NRP represented in international events:

Dr. Nurun Nahar, Project Director of NRP-Programming Division part participated in CoP 25 in Madrid in December 2019. She shared the mainstreaming of DRR and Climate Changes Issues in planning process of Bangladesh in a workshop on 7 December 2019.

NRP-PD actively participated in the International Conference on Earth and Environmental Science & Technology for sustainable Development held in Hotel Inter continental from 25-27 January 2020 organized by the Faculty of Earth and Environmental Science, University of Dhaka. In working session, Dr. Nurun Nahar presented "Approaches for Mainstreaming Risk Informed Development in Bangladesh" on 27 January. Mr. Arif Abdullah Khan, Program Specialist, UNDP moderated the session. She also took part in research conference - Gobeshona organized by ICCAD, Independent University Bangladesh. ■



Expert Engagement for Finalization of the Training Manual on Mainstreaming DRR

NRP-Programming Division Part is finalizing the training manual on Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction for public sector training institutes. In this connection a workshop was held on 05 January 2020 at NEC Committee Room, where 20 experts from different training institutes, GoB agencies, universities and NGOs reviewed the draft training manual.

The experts were divided in four groups and concentrated on finalization of training curriculum.

The manual will be finalized in early March and will be handover to training institutes. Mr.Md.Nurul Amin, Secretary, Planning Division was Chief Guest in the workshop and Mr. Md.Khalilur Rahman Khan, Chief, Programming Division chaired. ■

Forthcoming publications

Through the vigilant support of the NRP Prog Div, Programming Division is expected to get final version of the following publications:

- Result Indicators on Disaster Management for 8th five Years Plan
- Training Manual on Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction
- Exploring Resilience in Hotspots in Bangladesh
- Review of Climate and Disaster Risk Information Databases in Bangladesh: The case for DRIP
- Policy Brief: Gender Responsive Planning Guideline.
- Resilience- Half yearly Newsletter, 3rd issue.

Upcoming Events

- 2nd DIA consultation
- Inception of a study on economic impact of water logging in Chottogram
- Inception workshop on Industry sector risk profile.
- Training on Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction.