

Manual for

Promoting Gender Transformative Approaches in Climate Change Adaptation and SRHR (Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights) Programming

July 2023

Acronym

AIDS: Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

BD: Bangladesh

BNBC: Bangladesh National Building Code

BWDB: Bangladesh Water Development Board

CC: Climate Change

CCA: Climate Change Adaptation

COVID-19: Coronavirus Disease 2019

DRR: Disaster Risk Reduction

GBV: Gender-Based Violence

GDP: Gross Domestic Product

HIV: Human Immunodeficiency Virus

MHM: Menstrual Hygiene Management

IPCC: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

LGBTQ: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer

NGO: Non-Governmental Organizations

PTSD: Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

SOD: Standing Order on Disaster

UN Women: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

UN: United Nations

UNO: Upazila Nirbahi Officer

UHFPO: Upazila Health and Family Planning Officer

UNFPA: United Nations Population Fund

UNICEF: United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

WEE: Women Economic Empowerment

WHO: World Health Organization

Preface

In a world grappling with the profound impact of Climate Change and striving for gender equality, it is evident that the challenges we face are interconnected and multifaceted. Climate Change disproportionately affects vulnerable communities, exacerbates existing inequalities, and places a disproportionate burden on women and marginalized population. Addressing these intertwined challenges requires innovative and transformative approaches that consider the unique perspectives, needs, and contributions of all individuals, regardless of their gender identity.

This training Manual, titled "Manual for Promoting Gender Transformative Approaches in Climate Change Adaptation and SRHR (Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights) Programming" is designed to equip Health and Family Planning practitioners, policymakers, and organizations with the knowledge and tools needed to foster gender-responsive and inclusive initiatives. It aims to build capacity and understanding to effectively address the intersection of Climate Change adaptation and sexual and reproductive health and rights through a transformative lens.

Throughout this manual, we will delve into the complexities of gender roles, norms, and power dynamics, examining how they intersect with Climate Change vulnerabilities and resilience. We will explore the importance of recognizing and respecting diverse gender identities and expressions, as well as the significance of empowering women and marginalized gender groups in decision-making processes related to Climate Change adaptation and SRHR.

Drawing on the latest research, best practices, and real-world case studies, this manual will provide practical guidance on how to integrate gender transformative approaches into Climate Change adaptation and SRHR programming. By doing so, we aim to enhance the effectiveness, equity, and sustainability of these initiatives, ensuring that no one is left behind in our collective efforts to build a more resilient and just world.

Key topics covered in this manual include:

- ❖ Section 1: Impact of Climate Change induced Disaster on Health and Family Planning sector and its preparedness and adaptation practice in Bangladesh.
- ❖ Section 2: Integrating Gender Transformative approach in Climate Induced Disaster
- ❖ Section 3: Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Bangladesh Perspective

Let us embrace the challenge and opportunity to integrate gender transformative approaches into Climate Change adaptation and SRHR and family planning programming.

Together, let's create positive change.

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Acknowledgement

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude and extend warm greetings to everyone who contributed to the development of the training Manual for the "Dishari project: Advancing the Leadership of Women and Girls towards Better Health and Climate Change Resilience in Bangladesh." Your valuable feedback, unwavering support, and dedication have been instrumental in shaping this comprehensive and impactful Manual.

Firstly, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the Pathfinder International Country Director for his insightful feedback and guidance throughout the development process. Your expertise and valuable suggestions have been invaluable in refining the content and ensuring its effectiveness.

I would also like to express my gratitude to all the national and international colleagues involved from the "Dishari project: Advancing the Leadership of Women and Girls towards Better Health and Climate Change Resilience in Bangladesh" and USAID Shukhi Jibon Project for your constructive feedback, suggestions, commitment, and enthusiasm have played a significant role in the successful creation of this training Manual.

Furthermore, I would like to extend my thanks to the District Administrations of Sylhet for their cooperation and support. Specifically, I would like to acknowledge the Director and Assistant Director of Health and Family Planning for their invaluable guidance and assistance in aligning the training Manual with the local context. Your involvement has been crucial in ensuring the relevance and applicability of the Manual at the grassroots level.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the Gender Integration in Family Planning Service (GIFPS) and GBV Manual of **Pathfinder International** for their significant contribution to the development of our training Manual. The insights and resources provided by the GIFPS Manual have greatly enriched our content, enabling us to deliver a comprehensive and evidence-based training program.

In conclusion, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to all individuals and organizations involved in the development of this training Manual. Your unwavering support, expertise, and collaboration have been instrumental in creating a valuable resource that will contribute to the success of the "Dishari Project" and the improvement of health and Family Planning services in Sylhet. Thank you once again for your invaluable contributions.

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Dishari Project: Advancing the Leadership of Women and Girls towards Better Health and Climate Change Resilience

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Section 0: Introduction, Objectives of Manual, and Facilitator Guidelines

A. Introduction:

Welcome to the Manual for Promoting Gender Transformative Approaches in Climate Change Adaptation and SRHR (Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights) Programming. This Manual aims to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of the interconnections among gender Climate Change Adaptation (CCA), Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), and Gender Based Violence (GBV), and their impact on health and Family Planning in disaster-affected communities. By exploring these topics, we seek to enable individuals and communities to exercise their individual and collective agency to address gender disparities, promote resilience in the face of disasters and transform inequitable gender norms that serve as barriers to health and well-being.

B. Background

Pathfinder International has been implementing the **Dishari project**: Advancing the Leadership of Women and Girls towards Better Health and Climate Change Resilience in Bangladesh. The disproportionate impact of Climate Change, conflict and emergencies alongside COVID-19 has exacerbated the already fragile state of women’s health in low-resource settings in Bangladesh. Dishari is a 4-year project across the Ganges flood plains of Bangladesh, and the drought afflicted regions of Pakistan. The project centers women as change agents, strengthening their knowledge and access to equitable quality health services alongside building community resilience to future shocks. Women and girls are subjected to various forms of sexual and gender base violence (SGBV) within and outside the family.

The climate crisis is not “gender neutral”. Women and girls experience the greatest impacts of Climate Change, which amplifies existing gender inequalities and poses unique threats to their livelihoods, health, and safety. (unwomen.org,2022)

Across the world, women depend more on, yet have less access to, natural resources. In many regions, women bear a disproportionate responsibility for securing food, water, and fuel. Agriculture is the most important employment sector for women in low- and lower-middle income countries, during periods of drought and erratic rainfall, women, as agricultural workers and primary procurers, work harder to secure income and resources for their families. This put added pressure on girls, who often have to leave school to help their mothers manage the increased burden.

Climate Change is a “threat multiplier”, meaning it escalates social, political and economic tensions in fragile and conflict-affected settings. As Climate Change drives conflict across the world, women and girls face increased vulnerabilities to all forms of gender-based violence, including conflict-related sexual violence, human trafficking, child marriage, and other forms of violence.

When disasters strike, women are less likely to survive and more likely to be injured due to long standing gender inequalities that have created disparities in information, mobility, decision-making, and access to resources and training. In the aftermath, women and girls are less able to access relief and assistance, further threatening their livelihoods, wellbeing and recovery, and creating a vicious cycle of vulnerability to future disasters.

Women's and girls' health is endangered by Climate Change and disasters by limiting access to services and health care, as well as increasing risks related to maternal and child health. Research indicates that extreme heat increases incidence of stillbirth, and Climate Change is increasing the spread of vector-borne illnesses such as malaria, dengue fever, and Zika virus, which are linked to worse maternal and neonatal outcomes. (unwomen.org,2022)

In such circumstances, changes of environment by external phenomena –such as Climate Change – pushes them into a more vulnerable position. The existing gender inequalities heighten much more during contingencies or emergencies such as disasters and pandemics, calamities and conflicts especially when Climate Change results in gender-differentiated impacts.

C. Objectives:

At the end of the training the participants will be able to

- 🌸 Increase participants' knowledge and comprehension of the interconnectedness between climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction (DRR) highlighting the critical role of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) as an essential service during emergency crises.
- 🌸 Enable participants to identify and apply practical strategies and best practices for integrating gender-responsive and gender-transformative approaches into initiatives related to climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and health, and SRHR, with a specific focus on ensuring the provision of SRHR services as part of emergency response efforts.
- 🌸 To understand and apply gender transformative and gender sensitive approaches in climate induced disaster management by Health and Family Planning sector in Bangladesh.
- 🌸 Enable participants to identify and apply practical strategies and best practices for integrating gender transformative and gender-responsive approaches into initiatives related to climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, health, and family Planning.

D. Duration of Training:

To complete this manual 3 Days (18 Hours) will be needed.

E. Manual Overview:

The "Manual for Promoting Gender Transformative Approaches in Climate Change Adaptation and SRHR Programming" is a comprehensive guide designed to empower practitioners,







policymakers, and organizations to address the interconnected challenges of climate change adaptation and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) through a transformative gender lens. This manual provides practical insights, best practices, and innovative strategies to foster gender-responsive and inclusive initiatives, ensuring that vulnerable communities are not left behind in the face of climate change impacts. There are three sections of this manual. The sections are briefly described in the below-

Section 1: Impact of Disaster and Climate Change on Health and Family Planning sector and its preparedness and adaptation practice in Bangladesh.

Objectives of this section:

1. Increase participants' knowledge and comprehension of the interconnectedness between climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction (DRR) and highlighting the critical role of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) as an essential service during emergency crises.
2. Enable participants to identify and apply practical strategies and best practices for integrating gender-responsive and gender-transformative approaches into initiatives related to climate change adaptation disaster risk reduction and health, and SRHR, with a specific focus on ensuring the provision of SRHR services as part of emergency response efforts.

Contents:

-  Explore the basic concept of Disaster, CCA, DRR and Disaster management.
-  Identify the frequently occurred disasters in Bangladesh, causes and consequences of those disasters.
-  Understand the causes and impacts of Climate Change in Health sector in Bangladesh.
-  Develop strategies for mitigating the impacts of Climate Change.
-  Identify disaster preparedness measures and resilience strategies.
-  Develop an understanding on early warning systems, disaster risk reduction, and post-disaster recovery and reconstruction.

Section 2: Integrating Gender Transformative approach in Climate Induced Disaster Management

Objectives of this section:

Understand and apply gender transformative and gender sensitive approaches in climate induced disaster management by Health and Family Planning sector in Bangladesh.

Contents of this section:

-  Understand the definition, gender related terminologies and gender vulnerabilities.

- ✿ Differentiate the gender transformative and Gender Sensitive approach.
- ✿ Identify the root causes and risk factors of gender inequalities in Bangladesh.
- ✿ Understand power, empowerment, women empowerment, aspects of women empowerment.
- ✿ Identify the constraints behind the women empowerment and strategy to overcome those constraints in Bangladesh perspective.
- ✿ Challenging Gender Stereotypes in Disaster Response and Empowering Women in Disaster Preparedness
- ✿ Gender-Responsive Early Warning Systems and Gender-Inclusive Evacuation and Sheltering

Section 3: Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Bangladesh Perspective

Objective of this Section:

Enable participants to identify and apply practical strategies and best practices for integrating gender transformative and gender-responsive approaches into initiatives related to climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and health, and family Planning.

Contents for this section:

- ✿ Understand the concept of gender-based violence (GBV) and its various forms in the context of Bangladesh.
- ✿ Recognize the impact of GBV on individuals, families, and communities in Bangladesh.
- ✿ Identify the root causes and contributing factors of GBV in the Bangladeshi society.
- ✿ Gain knowledge of the legal framework and policies in Bangladesh related to addressing GBV.
- ✿ Explore the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders in preventing and responding to GBV.
- ✿ Learn about effective strategies and interventions to prevent and respond to GBV in Bangladesh.

F. Notes to Trainer

F.1. Introduction

The following trainers’ guidelines are designed to assist trainers and facilitators in delivering a gender Manual that addresses the intersectionality of Climate Change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and gender-based violence. This Manual aims to create awareness, build capacity, and promote actions that foster health and Family Planning in disaster-affected communities. It is essential to approach these topics with sensitivity, cultural competency, and respect for the diverse perspectives and experiences of participants. These guidelines provide a structured framework to ensure effective facilitation and maximize learning outcomes.

F.2. Training Goal and Objectives

Training Goal:




The goal of this training is to equip health and family planning staff, disaster management committee members, and Pathfinder International staff with the knowledge and skills to integrate gender transformative approaches in climate change adaptation and SRHR programming.







Training Objectives:

1. Understand the gender-climate nexus and its impact on health and SRHR in disaster contexts.
2. Promote gender-Transformative and Responsive approaches in disaster management and SRHR programming in Health and Family Planning Sector.
3. Address gender-based violence (GBV) and enhance support for survivors in climate-induced disasters.

F.3. Guide to Symbols

Symbols are used throughout the manual to help guide and instruct trainers. These symbols include:

	<p>TOTAL SECTION TIME Estimated time needed for each module or session. All times listed are suggested and subject to change depending on participant learning needs.</p>
	<p>NUMBER OF SESSIONS How many sessions are in a section</p>
	<p>TRAINER NOTE Additional notes or guidance on how a particular issue or session should be dealt with.</p>

	<p>LEARNING OBJECTIVES What participants can expect to achieve during the training, module, or session</p>
	<p>METHODOLOGIES Training methods used in the module, for example, discussions or case studies.</p>
	<p>MATERIALS NEEDED Materials needed to teach the module, for example, flipchart and markers</p>
	<p>ADVANCE PREPARATION Planning and preparation for a session or exercise that should be undertaken in advance.</p>
	<p>REFERENCE References are listed at the end of a research paper, essay, or any other written work, and they typically include the author's name, the title of the source, publication year, publisher, and other relevant publication information</p>
	<p>FOR GROUP DISCUSSION A list of questions for participants to reflect or consider</p>

F.4. Familiarize Yourself with the Content

Before conducting the training, thoroughly review the entire manual to gain a deep understanding of its content. Familiarize yourself with the concepts, case studies, and activities to confidently deliver the training. As the trainer, it is essential to familiarize yourself with the content of the manual "Promoting Gender Transformative Approaches in Climate Change Adaptation and SRHR Programming" before conducting the training. By doing so, you will be better equipped to deliver a comprehensive and effective training session.

F.5. Setting clear learning objectives

Setting clear learning objectives is crucial for guiding participants' learning journey and keeping the training focused and purposeful. By defining specific, measurable, and achievable objectives for each session based on the manual's content, facilitators can effectively communicate the desired outcomes to participants. Clear learning objectives provide a roadmap for both facilitators and participants, ensuring that the training addresses essential topics and leads to meaningful knowledge acquisition and skill development.

F.6. Emphasizing Inclusivity

Emphasizing inclusivity is vital in the training on "Promoting Gender Transformative Approaches in Climate Change Adaptation and SRHR Programming." Facilitators must prioritize creating a safe and respectful training environment where participants feel comfortable sharing their perspectives, regardless of their gender identity or expression. By fostering inclusivity, facilitators can encourage open dialogue, exchange of ideas, and the exploration of diverse viewpoints, enhancing participants' learning experience and enriching the training with valuable insights from varied perspectives.

F.7. Monitor Time Management

Manage the training sessions effectively to cover all essential topics within the allocated time. Be flexible to adjust the pace as needed, ensuring participants grasp the core concepts. Monitoring time management is crucial for ensuring that the training sessions run smoothly and that all essential topics are adequately covered. Effective time management allows participants to grasp the core concepts without feeling rushed or overwhelmed. Follow the Details Training Schedule is provided in the **Annex -2**:

F.8. Know Your Audience

Understand the background, knowledge level, and expectations of the participants. Tailor your training approach to meet the specific needs of the audience, ensuring inclusivity and relevance. The target audience for this training Manual includes Health and Family Planning professionals and disaster management committee members as well as staff members from local women affair office. These individuals are actively involved in promoting and implementing effective health and Family Planning initiatives. Their expertise and experience make them crucial stakeholders in understanding the intersection of Climate Change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and its impact on health and Family Planning. By equipping them with the knowledge and skills necessary to address gender equality, gender-based violence, and integrate gender-responsive approaches, we aim to empower these professionals and staff members to contribute effectively to disaster management and resilient health systems.

F.9. Skills Required to Facilitators:

Facilitating the training on "Promoting Gender Transformative Approaches in Climate Change Adaptation and SRHR Programming" requires certain essential skills and competencies to ensure an effective and impactful learning experience. Facilitators should possess the following skills:



Subject Matter Expertise: A strong understanding of gender issues, climate change, and SRHR is essential. Facilitators should be well-versed in the concepts, theories, and best practices covered in the training manual.

- ✿ **Facilitation Skills:** The ability to lead group discussions, manage activities, and engage participants effectively is crucial. Facilitators should create a safe and inclusive learning environment that encourages active participation and open dialogue.
- ✿ **Communication Skills:** Clear and effective communication is key to conveying complex concepts to participants. Facilitators should be skilled in articulating ideas, listening actively, and responding empathetically to participants' questions and concerns.
- ✿ **Adaptability:** Flexibility in adjusting the training approach based on participants' needs and dynamics is essential. Facilitators should be adaptable to unexpected situations and be ready to modify the training plan as required.
- ✿ **Time Management:** Keeping the training on schedule while ensuring that all essential topics are covered requires strong time management skills. Facilitators should be able to balance different activities and manage breaks effectively.
- ✿ **Empathy and Sensitivity:** Facilitators should demonstrate empathy and sensitivity when discussing gender-related issues. They should be aware of cultural differences and create a respectful and non-judgmental learning environment.
- ✿ **Problem-Solving Skills:** The ability to address challenges or conflicts that may arise during the training is important. Facilitators should be skilled in finding solutions and maintaining a positive training atmosphere.
- ✿ **Group Dynamics Understanding:** An understanding of group dynamics and how to foster collaboration among participants is crucial. Facilitators should encourage teamwork and build a sense of community among participants.
- ✿ **Active Listening:** Listening attentively to participants' perspectives and experiences is vital for effective facilitation. Facilitators should validate participants' contributions and create space for diverse viewpoints.
- ✿ **Visual and Verbal Presentation Skills:** Delivering engaging presentations and using visual aids effectively enhance participants' learning experience. Facilitators should be skilled in delivering information in a clear and engaging manner.
- ✿ **Conflict Resolution:** In case of disagreements or conflicts, facilitators should be able to handle these situations tactfully and promote constructive dialogue among participants.
- ✿ **Encouraging Reflection:** Facilitators should foster a culture of reflection and critical thinking, encouraging participants to connect the training content with their real-life experiences and contexts.
- ✿ **Feedback Receptivity:** Being open to receiving feedback from participants and using it to improve the training is crucial for continuous improvement.

By possessing these essential skills, facilitators can create a dynamic and empowering learning environment, fostering meaningful discussions and enabling participants to understand and apply gender transformative approaches in climate change adaptation and SRHR programming effectively.

F.10. Group size and Composition:

The ideal group size for the workshop is 25, but it should not be more than 30 in any case. A gender balance among the participants is highly desirable. It is advisable to have at least equal number of women participants in the program, if not more. As it is hard to achieve these numbers for a variety of reasons, it is important to initiate the process of seeking nominations fairly in advance.

F.11. Materials Required

The following materials will be needed to conduct the training.

- ✿ Training Manuals
- ✿ Presentation Slides
- ✿ Handouts
- ✿ Worksheets
- ✿ Case Studies
- ✿ Interactive Activities
- ✿ Assessment Tools
- ✿ Quizzes and Tests
- ✿ Feedback Forms
- ✿ VIP Cards
- ✿ Board Marker and Sign pen
- ✿ White board
- ✿ Note pad, pen and pencil.
- ✿ Stapler
- ✿ Printer
- ✿ Flipchart
- ✿ Certificates of Completion
- ✿ Multimedia and Screen

(GIFPS Trainers manual of Pathfinder)

F.12. Opening the workshop

As opening session is going to set the tone of the workshop to follow and has to be, therefore, planned and conducted carefully. The opening session should ideally be 30-40 minutes, but certainly not more than one hour. This session has to be used to share the purpose and objectives of the workshop, lay out the agenda, and set ground rules. It is also an opportunity for the participants to introduce themselves and their experience, explain their motivation for joining the workshop, and state their expectations from the event. You may want to use an ‘ice-breaker’

exercise like the one below to help participants to get to know each other, and to put them at ease and get them talking.

F.13. Know and Introduce Each Other

As part of the training on "Promoting Gender Transformative Approaches in Climate Change Adaptation and SRHR Programming," it is essential to begin with a proper introduction and ice-breaking activity to create a comfortable and inclusive learning environment. The "Know and Introduce Each Other" activity allows participants to get acquainted, share their backgrounds, and build rapport. Here's a suggested approach for the activity:

Instructions for Facilitator:

- ✿ Begin the session by welcoming all participants to the training. Express the importance of creating an inclusive and supportive learning space.
- ✿ Explain that the "Know and Introduce Each Other" activity aims to foster connections among participants and create a sense of community within the training group.
- ✿ Encourage participants to be respectful and open-minded throughout the activity, recognizing and embracing diverse gender identities, backgrounds, and experiences.

Activity Steps:

- ✿ **Icebreaker Question:** Start with a light icebreaker question related to climate change or gender issues. For example, you could ask: "What motivated you to attend this training and learn about gender transformative approaches in climate change and SRHR programming?"
- ✿ **Name and Affiliation:** Ask each participant to introduce themselves by stating their name and their affiliation or organization they represent. For instance, "Hello, my name is [Name], and I work with [Organization]."
- ✿ **Pronoun Sharing:** To create a gender-inclusive environment, invite participants to share their preferred pronouns after their introductions. For example, "My pronouns are she/her," or "My pronouns are he/him," or "My pronouns are they/them."
- ✿ **Share a Fun Fact:** Encourage participants to share a fun or interesting fact about themselves that is unrelated to work or training content. This personal touch helps break the ice and adds a human element to the introductions.
- ✿ **Appreciation and Validation:** After each introduction, thank the participant for sharing and offer a word of appreciation or validation. This demonstrates respect and creates a positive atmosphere.
- ✿ **Facilitator's Introduction:** Conclude the activity by introducing yourself as the facilitator. Share your name, pronouns, and a brief background related to your expertise in gender and climate issues.

- ✿ **Wrap-Up:** Express gratitude to all participants for their willingness to introduce themselves. Highlight the importance of inclusivity and diverse perspectives in the training process.

By starting the training with the "Know and Introduce Each Other" activity, participants will feel more comfortable engaging with one another and contribute actively throughout the training. Building this initial connection will set the stage for a supportive and inclusive learning environment that fosters meaningful discussions and learning experiences.

E.9. Training Evaluation

Training evaluation is a critical step in assessing the effectiveness and impact of the "Promoting Gender Transformative Approaches in Climate Change Adaptation and SRHR Programming" training. Evaluating the training allows facilitators and organizers to gather feedback, identify strengths and areas for improvement, and measure participants' learning outcomes. Here's how the training evaluation can be conducted:

- ✿ **Pre-Training Assessment:** Before the training begins, administer a pre-training assessment to gauge participants' baseline knowledge and awareness of gender and climate change issues. This assessment will help determine the starting point for each participant and provide insights into their learning needs.
- ✿ **Post-Training Assessment:** After the training is completed, conduct a post-training assessment to measure participants' knowledge gain and skills development. Compare the results with the pre-training assessment to determine the overall impact of the training.
- ✿ **Feedback Forms:** Provide participants with feedback forms to collect their opinions on various aspects of the training. Include questions on the training content, facilitation, activities, and overall satisfaction. Encourage participants to provide specific comments and suggestions.
- ✿ **Learning Outcomes Review:** Review the learning objectives set at the beginning of the training and assess how well they were achieved. Gather feedback from participants on the clarity and relevance of the learning objectives.
- ✿ **Group Discussions:** Conduct group discussions or focus group sessions to allow participants to share their experiences and reflect on the training's impact. Encourage participants to discuss how they plan to apply the learning in their work or projects.
- ✿ **Observation and Facilitator Feedback:** Seek feedback from co-facilitators or observers who can provide an external perspective on the training delivery, participant engagement, and overall dynamics during the sessions.
- ✿ **Post-Training Interviews:** Conduct one-on-one interviews with select participants to gather more in-depth feedback on their training experience, as well as any challenges or barriers they encountered.

- ✿ **Analyze Data:** Collect and analyze all evaluation data to identify common themes and patterns. Look for strengths to celebrate and areas for improvement to address in future training.
- ✿ **Action Plan:** Based on the evaluation findings, develop an action plan to address any identified weaknesses and enhance the training content and delivery. This plan should also outline strategies to build on the training's strengths.
- ✿ **Continuous Improvement:** Use the evaluation results as a foundation for continuous improvement. Implement the action plan and apply the lessons learned to refine future training sessions.

F.14. E.10. Manual Overview:

The Manual is divided into three distinct sections. The sections are mentioned in the below-

- ❖ Section 1: Impact of Disaster and Climate Change on Health and Family Planning sector and its preparedness and adaptation practice in Bangladesh.
- ❖ Section 2: Integrating Gender Transformative approach in Climate Induced Disaster
- ❖ Section 3: Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Bangladesh Perspective

Each part should be facilitated separately, allowing for a comprehensive understanding of the topics covered. The Manual can be delivered over multiple sessions, depending on the time available and the needs of the participants. The facilitator should ensure a safe and inclusive learning environment by encouraging open dialogue and respecting diverse viewpoints.

Section 1: Impact of Disaster and Climate Change on Health and Family Planning sector and its preparedness and adaptation practice in Bangladesh.

Objective-1: Increase participants' knowledge and comprehension of the interconnectedness between climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction (DRR) and highlighting the critical role of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) as an essential service during emergency crises.

Objective-2: Enable participants to identify and apply practical strategies and best practices for integrating gender-responsive and gender-transformative approaches into initiatives related to climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and health, and SRHR, with a specific focus on ensuring the provision of SRHR services as part of emergency response efforts.

Guidelines:

- ✿ Introduce the Manual's objectives, structure, and ground rules.
- ✿ Provide an overview of Climate Change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and emphasizing their significance in the context of health and Family Planning.

- ✿ Facilitate discussions and activities that explore the interconnections between disasters, Climate Change, and their implications for vulnerable populations, including women and girls.
- ✿ Encourage participants to share their experiences and knowledge related to CCA and DRR.
- ✿ Present case studies and examples of successful CCA and DRR initiatives that integrate gender-responsive approaches.
- ✿ Facilitate group exercises that promote critical thinking and problem-solving skills in relation to CCA and DRR strategies.
- ✿ Conclude the session by summarizing key points and highlighting the relevance of CCA and DRR for health and Family Planning.

Section 2: Integrating Gender Transformative approach in Climate Induced Disaster Management

Objective: Understand and apply gender transformative and gender sensitive approaches in climate induced disaster management by Health and Family Planning sector in Bangladesh.

Guidelines:

- ✿ Begin by reviewing the key concepts of gender, gender roles, and gender stereotypes.
- ✿ Facilitate discussions on the social, cultural, and economic factors that contribute to gender inequality and its impact on health and Family Planning in disaster-prone areas.
- ✿ Explore the specific vulnerabilities and needs of women, men, girls, and boys during and after disasters.
- ✿ Highlight the importance of promoting women's leadership and participation in disaster management and decision-making processes.
- ✿ Introduce gender-responsive approaches and good practices that can be implemented to address gender disparities in disaster contexts.
- ✿ Encourage participants to identify practical strategies for mainstreaming gender considerations in health and Family Planning programs.
- ✿ Foster an inclusive and respectful environment by acknowledging diverse perspectives and facilitating open dialogue.

Section 3: Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Bangladesh Perspective

Objective: Enable participants to identify and apply practical strategies and best practices for integrating gender transformative and gender-responsive approaches into initiatives related to climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and health, and family Planning.

Guidelines:

- ✿ Start by defining gender-based violence and its different forms, including physical, sexual, and emotional violence.

- ✿ Facilitate discussions on the root causes and consequences of GBV, particularly in the context of disasters.
- ✿ Explore the intersections between GBV, health, and Family Planning, emphasizing the need for comprehensive support services.
- ✿ Present case studies and real-life examples that highlight successful interventions and best practices in preventing and responding to GBV.
- ✿ Facilitate exercises and role plays to build participants' skills in recognizing, addressing, and preventing GBV in disaster-affected settings.
- ✿ Provide information on available support mechanisms, including referral pathways and community resources, for survivors of GBV.
- ✿ Conclude the session by emphasizing the importance of promoting a survivor-centered and gender-responsive approach to addressing GBV.

G. List of Dos and Don'ts for Facilitators:

Dos:

- ✿ Do create a safe and inclusive learning environment where participants feel comfortable expressing their thoughts and experiences.
- ✿ Do respect diverse perspectives and encourage open dialogue among participants.
- ✿ Do maintain confidentiality and ensure the privacy of any personal stories or disclosures shared by participants.
- ✿ Do provide clear explanations and examples to enhance understanding of complex concepts related to gender, DRR, CCA, and GBV.
- ✿ Do promote active participation by using interactive activities, group discussions, and case studies to facilitate learning.
- ✿ Do encourage critical thinking and problem-solving skills through thought-provoking questions and exercises.
- ✿ Do adapt the Manual content and delivery approach to suit the cultural context and needs of the participants.
- ✿ Do emphasize the importance of taking action and applying the knowledge gained from the Manual in real-life situations.
- ✿ Do provide appropriate resources, references, and further reading materials for participants to deepen their understanding.

Don'ts:

- ✿ Don't impose personal opinions or biases on participants. Facilitators should remain neutral and unbiased throughout the sessions.

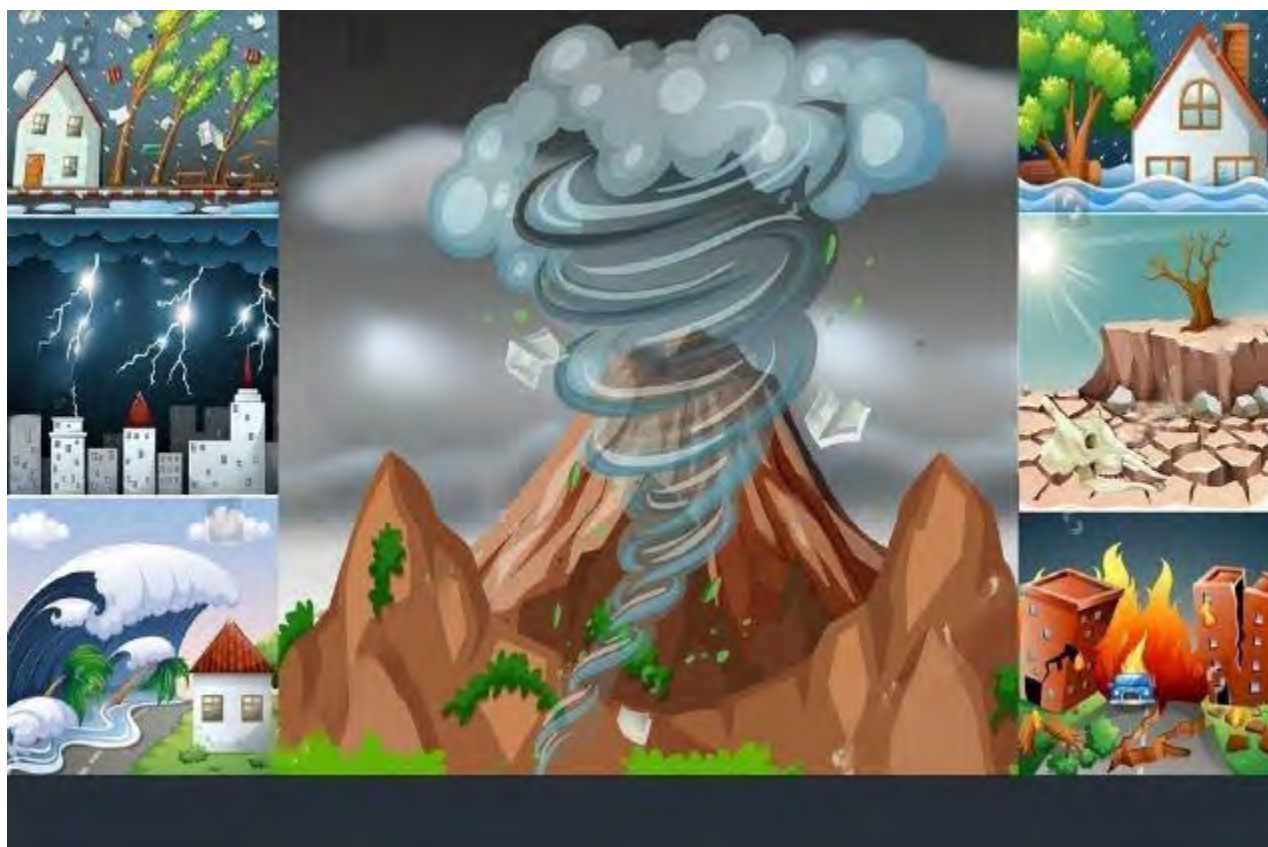
- ❁ Don't tolerate or condone any form of discrimination, harassment, or disrespectful behavior among participants.
- ❁ Don't rush through the Manual content. Allow sufficient time for discussions, reflection, and activities to ensure meaningful engagement.
- ❁ Don't make assumptions about participants' experiences or backgrounds. Instead, encourage individuals to share their own perspectives.
- ❁ Don't dismiss or trivialize participants' concerns or questions. Treat all queries and contributions with respect and address them appropriately.
- ❁ Don't shy away from addressing sensitive topics. Instead, create a supportive environment for discussing challenging issues such as GBV.
- ❁ Don't oversimplify complex issues or generalize experiences. Acknowledge the nuances and diversity within gender, DRR, CCA, and GBV.
- ❁ Don't ignore self-care. Encourage participants to practice self-care during and after the sessions and provide appropriate resources if needed.

By adhering to these dos and don'ts, facilitators can create a supportive and empowering learning environment for participants, allowing them to engage effectively with the Manual content and apply their learnings to promote positive change in their communities.

These facilitator guidelines provide a comprehensive framework for delivering a gender Manual focusing on Climate Change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and gender-based violence in the context of health and Family Planning. Facilitators should adapt the guidelines to the specific needs and cultural context of the participants. By fostering dialogue, promoting inclusivity, and encouraging action-oriented learning, this Manual aims to empower individuals and communities to address gender disparities and promote health and Family Planning in disaster-affected settings.

Section One

Impact of Disaster and Climate Change on Health and Family Planning sector and its preparedness and adaptation practice in Bangladesh



Source: shutterstock.com

Section 1: Impact of Disaster and Climate Change on Health and Family Planning sector and its preparedness and adaptation practice in Bangladesh.

1.A. Introduction

This training Manual aims to provide participants with an overview of Climate Change, its impact on Bangladesh, disaster preparedness, and resilience strategies. Participants will learn about the current and future Climate Change scenarios in Bangladesh, the potential impacts on Health and Family Planning sector, and the measures that can be taken to mitigate those impacts. They will also learn about disaster preparedness measures and resilience strategies, including early warning systems, disaster risk reduction, and post-disaster recovery and reconstruction.

1.B. Session Objective:

Objective-1: Increase participants' knowledge and comprehension of the interconnectedness between climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction (DRR) and highlighting the critical role of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) as an essential service during emergency crises.

Objective-2: Enable participants to identify and apply practical strategies and best practices for integrating gender-responsive and gender-transformative approaches into initiatives related to climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, health and SRHR, with a specific focus on ensuring the provision of SRHR services as part of emergency response efforts.

1.C. Section Learning Objectives:

Based on the above manual objectives few learning objective are identified. After completing this training, participants will be able to:

- 🌱 Understand the relationship between climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) in emergency contexts.
- 🌱 Identify the importance of gender-responsive and gender-transformative approaches in disaster management, climate adaptation, and SRHR initiatives.
- 🌱 Apply practical strategies to integrate gender considerations into disaster risk reduction and emergency response efforts.
- 🌱 Recognize the critical role of SRHR services in supporting vulnerable populations during emergencies and disasters.
- 🌱 Develop the capacity to advocate for and implement gender-inclusive disaster management policies and programs that prioritize SRHR services.






1.D. Section Time:


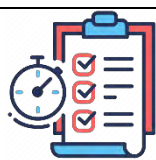


1 day (6 hours i.e., 360 minutes of session time)

1. E. Expected Outcomes:

- ☼ Gain a comprehensive understanding of the fundamental concepts of Climate Change Adaptation (CCA), Disaster, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Disaster Resilience, and Disaster Management.
- ☼ Identify the common types of disasters that frequently occur in Bangladesh, including their underlying causes and the consequences they have on communities and individuals.
- ☼ Develop effective strategies to mitigate the impacts of Climate Change, taking into account the specific vulnerabilities and challenges faced in Bangladesh.
- ☼ Identify and analyze disaster preparedness measures and resilience strategies that can enhance the ability of communities to respond to and recover from disasters.
- ☼ Acquire knowledge and skills related to early warning systems, disaster risk reduction strategies, and the process of post-disaster recovery and reconstruction.

1.F. Section Guideline:

	<p>TOTAL SECTION TIME One Day (6 Hour)</p>	
	<p>NUMBER OF SESSIONS Session 1.1: Basic concept of CCA, Disaster, DRR, Disaster resilience and Disaster management Session 1.2: Introduction to Climate Change, its impacts on Bangladesh Session 1.3: Disaster Management, Preparedness and Resilience Strategies 1.4. Story and Group Work:</p>	
	<p>TRAINER NOTE Explore the impact of disasters and climate change on the Health and Family Planning sector in Bangladesh. Discover effective preparedness and adaptation practices to build resilience and address challenges in this training</p>	
	<p>SECTION OBJECTIVES Objective-1: Increase participants' knowledge and comprehension of the interconnectedness between climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction (DRR) and highlighting the critical role of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) as an essential service during emergency crises. Objective-2: Enable participants to identify and apply practical strategies and best practices for integrating gender-responsive and gender-transformative approaches into initiatives related to climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, health, and SRHR, with a specific focus on ensuring the provision of SRHR services as part of emergency response efforts.</p>	
	<p>METHODOLOGIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive Discussion • Case Studies • Expert Talks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer Learning • Reflection and Discussion • Action Planning

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group Exercises 	
	MATERIALS NEEDED Projector and Screen Flipcharts or Whiteboard with Markers Laptop or Computer Handouts and Printed Training Materials Real-Life Case Studies and Research Papers	Name Tags and Badges Notepads and Pens for Participants Access to Online Resources and Research Databases
	ADVANCE PREPARATION Research and Gather Information Develop Training Materials Invite Expert Speakers Plan Group Exercises	Set Training Agenda Test Technical Equipment Prepare Reflection Questions Organize Logistics Send Pre-training Materials
	REFERENCE Standing Order on Disaster 2019, Disaster Ready.org, ipcc.ch	
	FOR GROUP DISCUSSION There are three Group discussion in this section	

1.G. Section Outline

SL No	Contents	Time Frame
1.1	Session 1.1: Basic concept of CCA, Disaster, DRR, Disaster resilience and Disaster management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disaster Terminology Disasters in Bangladesh 	90 minutes
1.2	Session 1.2: Introduction to Climate Change, its impacts on Bangladesh Concept, Cause, and consequences of Climate Change. Climate Change in Bangladesh Adaptation and Mitigation strategies of Climate Change Impacts in Bangladesh	90 minutes
1.3	Session 1.3: Disaster Management, Preparedness and Resilience Strategies 1.3.1 Basic concept of Disaster Management, preparedness and Resilience 1.3.2. Disaster preparedness measures for Health and Family Planning Sector 1.3.3. Disaster risk reduction Measures for Health and Family Planning Sector 1.3.4. Importance of Climate Change mitigation and disaster preparedness in Health and Family Planning Sector	90 minutes

	<p>1.3.5. Impact of Climate Change induced disaster on health and Family Planning sector in Bangladesh</p> <p>1.3.6. How Health and Family Planning is a tool for Climate Change Resilience?</p>	
<p>1.4</p>	<p>1.4.1. Story -1: Inundated Hope: A Chronicle of Challenging Pregnancies in Flood-Prone Bangladesh</p> <p>1.4.1.a. Group Work-1 Title: Enhancing Maternal Healthcare in Flood-Prone Regions: Building Resilience and Preparedness</p> <p>1.4.2. Story-2 Title: "Breaking Taboos, Ensuring Dignity: Transforming Menstrual Hygiene Management in Cyclone-Prone Bangladesh"</p> <p>1.4.2.a. Group Work-2 Title: Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Challenges and the Way Forward in Cyclone-Prone Bangladesh</p> <p>1.4.3. Story-3 Title: Broken Dreams: Confronting the Harsh Realities of Child Marriage Amidst Disaster</p> <p>1.4.3.a. Group Work-3 Title: Empowering Health Service Providers in Combating Early Marriage and Its Consequences</p>	<p>60 minutes</p>






Session 1.1: Basic concept of Disaster, CCA, DRR, Disaster resilience and Disaster management

1.1.1. Disaster Terminology

Bangladesh is a country that is highly vulnerable to natural disasters and hazards due to its geographical location, topography, and climate. The country is prone to frequent flooding, cyclones, landslides, and droughts, among other hazards. These events often result in significant loss of life, displacement, and damage to infrastructure, crops, and property.

Disaster: A serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society at any scale due to hazardous events interacting with conditions of exposure, vulnerability and capacity, leading to one or more of the following: human, material, economic and environmental losses and impacts. The effect of the disaster can be immediate and localized, but it is often widespread and may last for a long period of time. The effect may test or exceed the capacity of a community or society to cope with its own resources, and therefore, may require assistance from external sources, which may include neighboring jurisdictions, or those at the national or international levels. (SOD 2019)

The following are some examples:

-  Cyclones and Storm Surges
-  Flooding
-  Riverbank Erosion
-  Salinity Intrusion
-  Droughts, etc.

Types of Disaster

Disasters can be classified into several types based on their origin, impact, and severity. Here are some common types of disasters with examples:

Natural Disasters: These are caused by natural phenomena such as earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, wildfires, and landslides. For example, Cyclone in coastal area and flash flood in northern part of Bangladesh.

Human-made Disasters: These are caused by intentional or unintentional human actions, such as war, terrorism, and civil unrest. One real example of a man-made disaster in Bangladesh is the Rana Plaza building collapse. On April 24, 2013, an eight-story commercial building named Rana Plaza in Savar, near Dhaka, collapsed, resulting in one of the deadliest industrial accidents in history. The building housed several garment factories employing thousands of workers. Tragically, over 1,100 people lost their lives, and more than 2,500 others were injured. (BBC News, 2014)

Hazard: A dangerous phenomenon, substance, human activity or condition that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihoods and services, social and economic disruption, or environmental damage. *(SOD 2019)*

In another example, in 2019, Bangladesh was hit by Cyclone Fani, a powerful storm that caused widespread damage and displaced thousands of people. The cyclone brought strong winds, heavy rainfall, and storm surges, leading to flooding and landslides. The storm damaged homes, schools, and hospitals, and disrupted essential services such as power and water supply.

These examples illustrate the devastating impact that disasters and hazards can have on Bangladesh and its people. The country continues to invest in disaster risk reduction and management to mitigate the impact of these events and protect its citizens.

Response: The provision of emergency services and humanitarian assistance during or immediately after a disaster in order to save lives, reduce health impacts, ensure public safety and meet the basic subsistence needs of the people affected. *(SOD 2019)*

Evacuation: It is important to bring people at risk to safe shelters. The process of moving people to a safe shelter is called evacuation. When the warning of a cyclone is issued by the Bangladesh Meteorological Department, it is important for the coastal and island people to move to a safe place. Similarly, bringing people to a flood shelter during a heavy flood is also considered as evacuation. *(SOD 2019)*

Disaster Resilience: The ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate, adapt to, transform and recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner, including through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions through risk management. *(SOD 2019)*

Climate: Climate refers to the long-term average of weather conditions observed over a specific region. It includes factors such as temperature, precipitation, humidity, wind patterns, and other atmospheric variables. For example, the climate of the Sahara Desert is characterized by hot temperatures, very low rainfall, and arid conditions year-round. *(IPCC, 2013)*

Weather: Weather refers to the short-term state of the atmosphere at a specific time and place. It describes the current conditions of temperature, humidity, precipitation, wind speed and direction, and other atmospheric variables. As an example, a day with sunny skies, a temperature of 25°C (77°F), and light winds is an example of favorable weather conditions for outdoor activities. *(IPCC, 2013)*

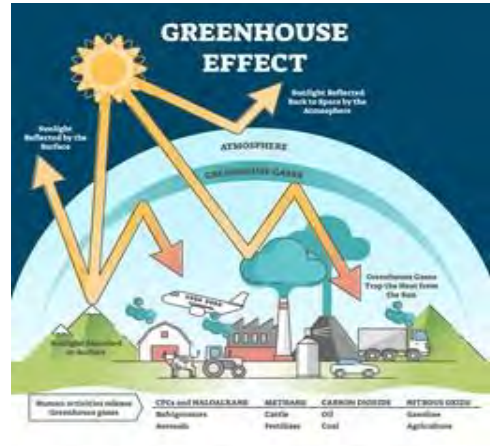
Climate Change: Climate Change refers to long-term shifts and alterations in Earth's climate patterns, primarily caused by human activities and natural factors. It involves changes in average temperature, precipitation patterns, wind patterns, and other aspects of the climate system. For instance, the increase in global average temperatures observed over the past century is a consequence of Climate Change.

Disaster Management refers to the set of actions taken to prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural or man-made disasters. It involves a cycle of activities that are aimed at reducing the impact of disasters on people, property, and the environment. (SOD 2019)

Greenhouse effect?



Source: NASA Climate Kids



The

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greenhouse effect refers to the process by which certain gases in the Earth's atmosphere trap heat from the sun, leading to a warming effect on the planet. The primary gases responsible for the greenhouse effect are carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), and fluorinated gases. (IPCC,2014)

Causes of the Greenhouse Effect:

- 🌱 Burning Fossil Fuels
- 🌱 Deforestation
- 🌱 Industrial Processes:
- 🌱 Agriculture

Consequences of the Greenhouse Effect:

- 🌱 Climate Change
- 🌱 Rising Sea Levels
- 🌱 Changes in Ecosystems
- 🌱 Extreme Weather Events
- 🌱 Impact on Human Health
- 🌱 Disruption of Agricultural Systems
- 🌱 Displacement
- 🌱 Threat to Water Resources
- 🌱 Economic Impacts
- 🌱 Loss of Biodiversity
- 🌱 Social and Environmental

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR): DRR is a systematic approach to identifying, assessing and reducing the risks of disaster. It aims to reduce socio-economic vulnerabilities to disaster as well as dealing with the environmental and other hazards that trigger them. It should be an integral part of the operations of government and development organizations, not an add-on or one-off action. DRR is very wide-ranging: Its scope is much broader and deeper than conventional emergency management. There is potential for DRR initiatives in just about every sector of development and humanitarian work. *(SOD 2019)*

The most commonly cited definition of DRR is one used by UN agencies such as UNDRR, that is the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, where the conceptual framework of elements is considered with the possibilities to minimize vulnerabilities and disaster risks throughout a society, to avoid (prevention) or to limit (mitigation and preparedness) the adverse impacts of hazards, within the broad context of sustainable development.

Climate Change Adaptation (CCA): CCA stands for Climate Change Adaptation, which is the process of adapting to the impacts of Climate Change to minimize its adverse effects on human and natural systems. CCA aims to help communities and nations to become more resilient to the impacts of Climate Change, such as sea-level rise, increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, and changing precipitation patterns. *(IPCC, 2014)*

Bangladesh is a country that is highly vulnerable to natural disasters and Climate Change impacts. In this context, the government of Bangladesh has implemented various CCA and DRR measures to reduce the risks of natural disasters and adapt to Climate Change.

Capacity: A set of positive conditions within an individual, community, society or organization that helps tackle hazardous situations and increases the ability to respond. That is, capacity is the overall state or process created by a combination of multiple factors such as natural, social, economic and environmental factors that help people or organizations to deal with the adverse conditions of a disaster and reduces its negative consequences. *(SOD 2019)*

Disaster Risk: Disaster risk refers to the potential adverse effects, including loss of life, damage to property, and disruption of livelihoods, caused by a hazard event. It encompasses the interaction between the hazard (such as earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, or droughts) and the vulnerabilities present in a given area or population. Disaster risk is influenced by factors such as exposure to hazards, the vulnerability of communities, and their capacity to cope and adapt. *(UNDRR, 2009)*

Risk = Hazard × Vulnerability/Capacity *(SOD 2019)*

Disaster Vulnerability: Disaster Vulnerability represents the characteristics and circumstances of individuals, communities, or systems that make them susceptible to the impacts of hazards. It involves multiple dimensions, including social, economic, and environmental factors that determine the degree to which a system or population is likely to suffer harm. Vulnerability can be influenced by factors such as poverty, inadequate infrastructure, weak governance, limited

access to resources, social marginalization, and lack of preparedness or capacity to respond to disasters. (UNDRR,2007)

The conditions determined by physical, social, economic and environmental factors or processes which increase the susceptibility of an individual, community, assets or systems to the impacts of hazards. (SOD 2019)

Adaptation: The adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities. (SOD,2019)

Adaptation in the context of disasters refers to the process of adjusting and modifying systems, policies, and practices to reduce vulnerability and increase resilience in the face of changing disaster risks and impacts. It involves proactive measures taken by individuals, communities, organizations, and governments to prepare for and respond effectively to disasters. Here are some key aspects of adaptation in the context of disasters:

- ♻ Risk Assessment
- ♻ Early Warning Systems
- ♻ Infrastructure and Physical Measures
- ♻ Land-Use Planning and Building Codes
- ♻ Ecosystem-Based Adaptation
- ♻ Community Engagement and Capacity Building
- ♻ Social Safety Nets and Insurance
- ♻ Knowledge Sharing and Learning

1.1.2. Disasters in Bangladesh

Bangladesh, a densely populated country located in South Asia, faces a multitude of natural disasters that pose significant challenges to its people and infrastructure. Situated in a geographically vulnerable region, Bangladesh is prone to disasters such as floods, cyclones, and earthquakes. These calamities have a profound impact on the country's economy, social fabric, and overall development. Coping with and mitigating the effects of these disasters is a constant struggle for the resilient people of Bangladesh, as they work towards building a more resilient and disaster-resilient nation. In this article, we will explore the major disasters that occur in Bangladesh, their causes, and the efforts undertaken to minimize their impact.



Figure 2: Recent Flood of Sylhet

Source: Flood Assessment Report of Suchana, 2022

Floods: Bangladesh is a low-lying country and is vulnerable to floods caused by heavy monsoon rains, tidal surges, and cyclones. Floods in Bangladesh can lead to loss of life, displacement of people, and damage to infrastructure, crops, and livestock.

Causes of flood in Bangladesh

Floods are a common occurrence in Bangladesh and are caused by a combination of natural and human factors. Here are some of the primary causes of floods in Bangladesh:

- ❖ Heavy rainfall
- ❖ Melting of Himalayan glaciers
- ❖ Cyclones and storm surges
- ❖ Deforestation
- ❖ Unplanned urbanization
- ❖ Dam and reservoir operations
- ❖ Climate Change

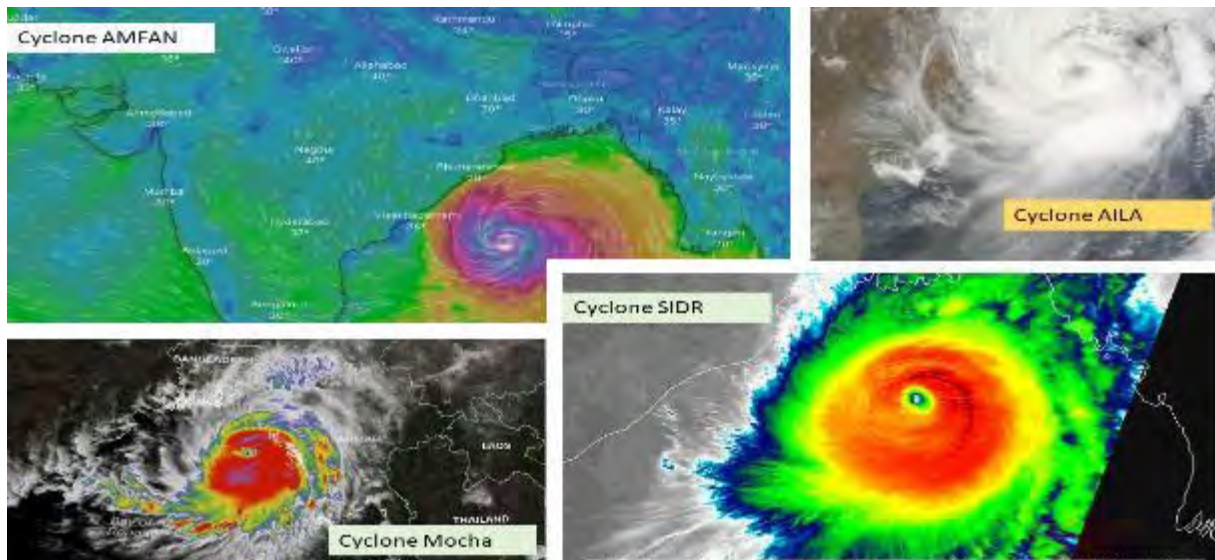
Impact of Flood on Health Sector: Impacts of flood on health sector are given in the below-

- ❖ Waterborne Diseases
- ❖ Malnutrition and Food Insecurity

- ❖ Displacement and Overcrowding
- ❖ Maternal and Child Health
- ❖ Limited Access to Reproductive Health Services
- ❖ Damage to Healthcare Infrastructure
- ❖ Mental Health and Psychological Impacts
- ❖ Increased Vulnerability of Women and Girls
- ❖ Spread of Vector-Borne Diseases
- ❖ Long-Term Health Impacts

These points illustrate some of the significant impacts of floods on health and Family Planning in Bangladesh. It is essential to address these challenges through comprehensive disaster preparedness, early warning systems, improved healthcare infrastructure, and targeted interventions to ensure the well-being and resilience of communities affected by floods.

Cyclones: Bangladesh is located in the Bay of Bengal, making it susceptible to cyclones. These powerful storms can cause high winds, storm surges, and heavy rainfall, resulting in widespread damage and loss of life.



Picture 2: Major cyclones of previous years.

Causes of Cyclone:

Cyclones, also known as hurricanes or typhoons, are caused by a combination of factors, including:

- ❖ Warm ocean water
- ❖ Coriolis force
- ❖ Low-pressure system
- ❖ Atmospheric instability
- ❖ Weak vertical wind shear

❖ Tropical disturbances



Picture 3: Impact of recent Cyclone Mocha

Source: Bdnews24.com, 15May2023

Impact of Cyclone in Health Sector

Impacts of cyclones on health and Family Planning in Bangladesh:

- ❖ Physical Injuries and Loss of Life
- ❖ Waterborne Diseases
- ❖ Displacement and Overcrowding
- ❖ Damage to Healthcare Infrastructure
- ❖ Maternal and Child Health Risks
- ❖ Mental Health Challenges
- ❖ Interruption of Family Planning Services
- ❖ Spread of Vector-Borne Diseases
- ❖ Limited Access to Safe Abortion Services
- ❖ Vulnerability of Women and Girls

Addressing the impacts of cyclones on health and Family Planning in Bangladesh requires comprehensive disaster preparedness, early warning systems, resilient healthcare infrastructure, and targeted interventions to ensure the well-being and reproductive health needs of affected communities.

Drought: Certain regions of Bangladesh experience droughts, which can have a significant impact on agriculture and livelihoods.

Causes of Drought

Drought is a prolonged period of abnormally dry weather conditions that can cause water scarcity and impact agricultural



Picture 4: Impact of Draught

production, human health, and the environment. Here are some of the **causes of drought:**

- ❖ Lack of precipitation
- ❖ Climate variability
- ❖ Deforestation
- ❖ Soil erosion
- ❖ Overuse of water resources
- ❖ Human activities

Impact of Drought: impacts of drought on health and Family Planning sector are given in the below-

- ❖ Impacts of drought on health and Family Planning:
 - ❖ Water Scarcity and Contamination
 - ❖ Malnutrition and Food Insecurity
 - ❖ Health Risks Due to Heatwaves
 - ❖ Impact on Maternal and Child Health
 - ❖ Displacement and Migration
 - ❖ Mental Health Challenges
 - ❖ Reduced Access to Reproductive Health Services
 - ❖ Water-Related Vector-Borne Diseases
 - ❖ Impact on Livelihoods and Economic Instability
 - ❖ Community Disruption and Social Impacts

Riverbank Erosion: Bangladesh is home to several major rivers, and riverbank erosion is a significant problem in many parts of the country. This can lead to the displacement of people and damage to infrastructure.

Causes of Riverbank Erosion

Riverbank erosion is a natural process that occurs when the river's water flow erodes the banks and carries away the soil and sediment. However, human activities can also exacerbate riverbank erosion. Here are some of the causes of riverbank erosion:

- ❖ Natural causes
- ❖ Human activities
- ❖ Climate Change
- ❖ Poor river management

Overall, riverbank erosion is a complex issue that is influenced by both natural and human factors. Efforts are needed to manage rivers and water resources sustainably, reduce the impacts of human activities, and mitigate the effects of Climate Change.

Impact of Riverbank Erosion in Bangladesh

- ❖ Impacts of riverbank erosion on health and Family Planning:
- ❖ Displacement and Homelessness
- ❖ Increased Vulnerability to Waterborne Diseases
- ❖ Limited Access to Healthcare Services
- ❖ Mental Health and Psychosocial Impact
- ❖ Disruption of Maternal and Child Health Services
- ❖ Increased Risk of Gender-Based Violence
- ❖ Food Insecurity and Malnutrition
- ❖ Limited Access to Family Planning Services
- ❖ Health Risks from Unstable Environments
- ❖ Loss of Livelihoods and Economic Instability

Session 1.2: Introduction to Climate Change, its impacts on Bangladesh

1.2.1. Concept, Cause, and consequences of Climate Change.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) defines climate change as follows:

"Climate change refers to a change in the state of the climate that can be identified (e.g., using statistical tests) by changes in the mean and/or the variability of its properties and that persists for an extended period, typically decades or longer. It refers to any change in climate over time, whether due to natural variability or as a result of human activity."

Climate Change refers to long-term changes in the Earth's climate, particularly changes in temperature, precipitation patterns, and other weather-related phenomena, largely caused by human activities such as burning fossil fuels and deforestation.

Climate Change in Story:

In Bangladesh, Climate Change has had a profound impact on the lives of millions of people, particularly those living in coastal areas. One real-life story that illustrates the impact of Climate Change in Bangladesh is the story of Shahana Begum, a 45-year-old mother of two from the village of Tafalbari in Bhola district.

Shahana Begum used to rely on fishing for her livelihood, but in recent years, rising sea levels and increased salinity in the water have made it increasingly difficult to catch fish. She now struggles to make ends meet, and her family often goes hungry.

Moreover, frequent and intense cyclones and flooding have destroyed her home several times, leaving her and her family homeless. They are forced to seek shelter in overcrowded relief centers or with relatives.

Shahana Begum's story is not unique; millions of people in Bangladesh are facing similar challenges due to Climate Change. The impact of Climate Change in Bangladesh is particularly severe because the country is low-lying and densely populated, making it vulnerable to sea-level rise, storm surges, and flooding.

Causes of Climate Change

Climate Change is primarily caused by human activities that emit greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. The most significant of these activities is the burning of fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and gas, which releases carbon dioxide (CO₂) into the air. Deforestation and land-use change are also major contributors to Climate Change, as they release carbon that was previously stored in trees and soil. Other human activities that contribute to Climate Change include agriculture, transportation, and industrial processes

Here's a list of the main causes of climate change according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC):

Greenhouse Gas Emissions:

- a. Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) from burning fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas) for energy, transportation, and industrial processes.
- b. Methane (CH₄) from agriculture (e.g., enteric fermentation in livestock), landfills, and natural gas production.
- c. Nitrous Oxide (N₂O) from agricultural activities and industrial processes.
- d. Fluorinated Gases from various industrial applications, refrigeration, and air conditioning.

Land Use Changes:

- a. Deforestation and forest degradation, which reduce the number of carbon sinks (trees) and release stored carbon back into the atmosphere.
- b. Land conversion for agriculture, urbanization, and other purposes that impact the carbon storage capacity of ecosystems.

Aerosols and Particulate Matter:

- a. Aerosols and particles released into the atmosphere from burning fossil fuels and biomass, as well as industrial activities, can have both warming and cooling effects on the climate.

Changes in Solar Radiation:

- a. Variations in solar radiation from the Sun can influence the Earth's climate over longer timescales, but they have not been the primary driver of recent climate change observed over the past century.

The Sixth Assessment Report (AR6)

The Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the most comprehensive assessment of climate change to date. It was released in 2021-2023 and provides a comprehensive assessment of the science of climate change, the impacts of climate change, and the options for mitigating climate change.

The report finds that human activities are the main cause of climate change and that the impacts of climate change are already being felt around the world. The report also finds that climate change is a serious threat to human society and that urgent action is needed to mitigate climate change and adapt to its impacts.

The AR6 report is an important resource for policymakers and other stakeholders who are working to address climate change. It is a valuable tool for understanding the science of climate change and its impacts, and it provides guidance for policymakers on how to address climate change.

Global Climate Change Scenario

Here are the global and Bangladesh-specific climate change scenarios according to the AR6 Synthesis Report:

Global Climate Change Scenario

- Global temperatures are expected to continue to rise, with a best estimate of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels by 2040 and 2.1°C by 2060 under a high emissions scenario.
- Sea levels are expected to rise by 0.2 to 0.6 meters by 2100 under a high emissions scenario.
- Extreme weather events, such as heat waves, droughts, floods, and wildfires, are expected to become more frequent and intense.
- The ocean is expected to become more acidic, which will impact marine life.
- The cryosphere (snow, ice, and permafrost) is expected to continue to decline, which will have a number of impacts, including rising sea levels and changes in river flows.

1.2.2. Climate Change in Bangladesh

Climate Change is having a significant impact on Bangladesh, which is one of the most climate-vulnerable countries in the world. Here are ten impacts of Climate Change in Bangladesh along with examples:

- 🌸 **Sea level rise:** The sea level is rising at an alarming rate, and Bangladesh is highly vulnerable to this. According to the World Bank, Bangladesh could lose up to 11% of its land area by 2050 due to sea level rise.
- 🌸 **Flooding:** Bangladesh is highly susceptible to flooding due to its low-lying terrain, heavy rainfall, and its location at the delta of three major rivers, the Ganges, Brahmaputra, and Meghna. For instance, in 2020, Bangladesh experienced severe flooding, which affected more than 4 million people.
- 🌸 **Cyclones:** Bangladesh is highly prone to cyclones, which are becoming more frequent and intense due to Climate Change. For example, Cyclone Amphan, which hit the country in May 2020, affected over 10 million people and caused an estimated \$13.2 billion in damages.
- 🌸 **Drought:** Climate Change is causing longer and more severe droughts in Bangladesh. In 2016, the country experienced one of its worst droughts in decades, which severely impacted agricultural production and caused water shortages.

- 🌸 **Heatwaves:** Heatwaves are becoming more frequent and severe in Bangladesh. In 2020, the country experienced a record-breaking heatwave, with temperatures soaring above 42°C (107.6°F) in some parts of the country.
- 🌸 **Food insecurity:** Climate Change is impacting agricultural production in Bangladesh, leading to food shortages and increased food prices. For example, in 2019, Bangladesh experienced a severe fall in crop production due to flooding, which led to a 40% increase in rice prices.
- 🌸 **Water scarcity:** Climate Change is causing changes in rainfall patterns, leading to water scarcity in some parts of Bangladesh. In 2020, a prolonged dry spell caused severe water shortages in many parts of the country.
- 🌸 **Migration:** Climate Change is leading to increased migration in Bangladesh, as people are forced to leave their homes due to flooding, sea-level rise, and other impacts of Climate Change.
- 🌸 **Health impacts:** Climate Change is leading to increased incidences of waterborne diseases, as flooding and water scarcity impact the availability and quality of drinking water. In addition, heatwaves and other extreme weather events are also impacting public health.
- 🌸 **Economic impacts:** Climate Change is impacting the economy of Bangladesh, with increased costs associated with adaptation and recovery from climate-related disasters. For example, the cost of Cyclone Amphan is estimated to be equivalent to 3% of Bangladesh's GDP.

Overall, Climate Change is having a significant impact on Bangladesh, and urgent action is needed to mitigate its effects and protect the people and the economy of the country.

Session 1.3: Disaster Management, Preparedness and Resilience Strategies

1.3.1 Basic concept of Disaster Management, preparedness and Resilience

Disaster Management: Performing disaster risk reduction and disaster response systematically under institutional frameworks whereby the following steps or actions are taken:

Assessment of vulnerabilities, exposure extent, magnitude and timing of disasters.

Undertaking all kinds of plans with management (risk reduction plan, contingency plan, business continuity plan, etc.), coordination and implementation.

Dissemination of early warning messages to evacuate people with essential resources to safe shelters.

Conduction of search and rescue operations, estimation of damage and loss of lives and properties, distribution of humanitarian assistance, rehabilitation and reconstruction, and carrying out essential services, recovery and development activities.

Conduct other activities that are relevant to disaster risk management.





The disaster management cycle, also known as the disaster risk management cycle, consists of several interconnected phases that guide the preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts in the face of a disaster. The cycle typically includes the following phases:



Picture 6: Disaster Management Cycle






Source: shutterstock.com

The four phases of the Disaster Management cycle are mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

-  Mitigation
-  Preparedness
-  Response
-  Recovery




Disaster preparedness: Disaster preparedness consists of a set of measures undertaken in advance by governments, organizations, communities, or individuals to better respond and cope with the immediate aftermath of a disaster, whether it be human-induced or caused by natural hazards (**Source:** *civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu,2022*)

The Preparedness Cycle elements include:

-  Mitigation activities
-  Prevention
-  Preparedness
-  Response
-  Recovery

Why is this important for the Health and Family Planning Sector?

Disaster preparedness is crucial for the health and Family Planning sector due to several reasons:

-  **Protecting Lives and Health:** Disasters can lead to significant loss of life and cause injuries and illnesses. By being prepared, the health sector can respond promptly and effectively to mitigate the impact on individuals and communities. Preparedness measures such as training healthcare professionals, stockpiling medical supplies, and establishing emergency medical facilities can save lives and provide essential healthcare services during and after disasters.
-  **Ensuring Continuity of Services:** Disasters can disrupt healthcare facilities, infrastructure, and supply chains, making it challenging to provide regular healthcare services. Through preparedness, the health sector can develop contingency plans, establish alternative facilities, and ensure the continuity of essential health services. This is particularly important for Family Planning , as disruptions in services can have long-term consequences on reproductive health and maternal and child well-being.
-  **Managing Public Health Risks:** Disasters can give rise to various public health risks such as waterborne diseases, vector-borne diseases, injuries, and mental health issues. Preparedness efforts in the health sector involve developing response plans to address these risks, establishing disease surveillance systems, and ensuring access to clean water, sanitation facilities, and hygiene promotion. By proactively managing public health risks,

the health sector can prevent disease outbreaks and reduce the burden on healthcare systems.

- ✿ **Protecting Vulnerable Populations:** Disasters disproportionately affect vulnerable populations, including women, children, elderly individuals, and individuals with disabilities. The health and Family Planning sector plays a critical role in identifying and addressing the specific needs of these groups during emergencies. Preparedness measures include developing inclusive emergency response plans, ensuring access to healthcare services, and providing psychosocial support for those who have experienced trauma.
- ✿ **Strengthening Resilience:** Disaster preparedness in the health and Family Planning sector is not only about responding to emergencies but also about building resilience in communities. By integrating disaster risk reduction and resilience-building measures into routine healthcare services, the sector can enhance community preparedness, improve health infrastructure's resilience, and promote a culture of safety and prevention.
- ✿ **Collaborating with Stakeholders:** Disaster preparedness requires collaboration and coordination among various stakeholders, including government agencies, non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, and the private sector. The health and Family Planning sector, as a key player, needs to actively engage in multi-sectoral partnerships to ensure effective preparedness, response, and recovery efforts.
- ✿ **Disaster Resilience:** Disaster resilience is the ability of individuals, communities, organizations and states to adapt to and recover from hazards, shocks or stresses without compromising long-term prospects for development. According to the Hyogo Framework for Action (UNISDR, 2005), disaster resilience is determined by the degree to which individuals, communities and public and private organizations are capable of organizing themselves to learn from past disasters and reduce their risks to future ones, at international, regional, national and local levels.

DFID (2011a, 6): ‘the ability of countries, communities and households to manage change, by maintaining or transforming living standards in the face of shocks or stresses – such as earthquakes, drought or violent conflict – without compromising their long-term prospects’.

Hyogo Framework of Action (UNISDR, 2005b, 4): ‘the capacity of a system, community or society potentially exposed to hazards to adapt, by resisting or changing in order to reach and maintain an acceptable level of functioning and structure’.

1.3.2. Disaster preparedness measures for Health and Family Planning Sector

Disaster preparedness measures focusing on the health sector can be implemented at the national level, organization level, and community level. Here are some key measures for each level:

National Level:

- ❖ Policy and P
- ❖ Planning
- ❖ Capacity Building
- ❖ Early Warning Systems
- ❖ Stockpiling and Supply Chain Management
- ❖ Information Management

Organization Level:

- ❖ Emergency Response Plans
- ❖ Training and Drills
- ❖ Resource Readiness
- ❖
- ❖ Collaboration and Networking
- ❖ Staff Preparedness
- ❖ Contingency Planning

Community Level:

- ❖ Community Education and Awareness
- ❖ Community-Based Organizations
- ❖ Vulnerable Populations
- ❖ Local Health Committees
- ❖ Community Health Worker

1.3.3. Disaster risk reduction Measures for Health and Family Planning Sector

Disaster risk reduction (DRR) measures focusing on the health sector can be implemented at the national level, organization level, and community level. Here are some key measures for each level:

National Level:

- ❖ Policy and Governance
- ❖ Risk Assessment and Mapping
- ❖ Strengthening Infrastructure
- ❖ Strengthening Health Systems
- ❖ Knowledge and Information Management

Organization Level:

- ❖ Risk-Informed Planning
- ❖ Training and Capacity Building
- ❖ Emergency Preparedness and Response
- ❖ Continuity of Services
- ❖ Partnerships and Collaboratio

Community Level:

- ❖ Community Participation
- ❖ Public Awareness and Education
- ❖ Community-Based Early Warning Systems
- ❖ Community Resilience Building
- ❖ Health Promotion and Education

1.3.4. Importance of Climate Change mitigation and disaster preparedness in Health and Family Planning Sector

The importance of climate change mitigation and disaster preparedness in the Health and Family Planning sector lies in safeguarding human health and promoting sustainable development.

Climate Change Mitigation:

- ✿ Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the Health and Family Planning sector can contribute to global efforts to limit climate change and its adverse health impacts.
- ✿ Transitioning to low-carbon energy sources, implementing energy-efficient practices, and promoting sustainable healthcare infrastructure can help mitigate the sector's carbon footprint.

Health Co-Benefits:

- ✿ Mitigating climate change in the sector can lead to co-benefits such as improved air quality, reduced respiratory diseases, and decreased exposure to climate-related health risks, like heat-related illnesses and vector-borne diseases.
- ✿ Promoting active transportation and sustainable urban planning can enhance physical activity levels and reduce the burden of non-communicable diseases.

Disaster Preparedness:

- ✿ Integrating climate projections into health planning helps anticipate and respond to climate-induced disasters, reducing health impacts and mortality rates during extreme weather events.
- ✿ Strengthening health facilities and supply chains ensures continuity of care and timely response during and after disasters.

Resilience and Adaptation:

- ✿ By addressing climate change in Health and Family Planning policies, systems can better adapt to changing health needs and vulnerabilities brought about by climate change.
- ✿ Integrating climate considerations into health services and family planning programs ensures continued access to reproductive health services, maternal care, and disease prevention in the face of climate-related disruptions.

Community Engagement and Equity:

- ✿ Involving communities in disaster preparedness and mitigation fosters resilience and empowers vulnerable populations, including women, children, and marginalized groups.
- ✿ Integrating gender-sensitive approaches ensures that health and family planning services meet the specific needs of all genders during and after climate-induced disasters.








Sustainable Development:

- ✿ Climate change mitigation in the Health and Family Planning sector aligns with the broader goals of sustainable development, as outlined in the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- ✿ Taking proactive measures to address climate change contributes to the achievement of multiple SDGs, including those related to health, gender equality, and climate action.

Overall, integrating climate change mitigation and disaster preparedness in the Health and Family Planning sector is vital for safeguarding human well-being, promoting health co-benefits, building resilience, and advancing sustainable development in the face of a changing climate.

1.3.5. Impact of Climate Change induced disaster on health and Family Planning sector in Bangladesh

Climate Change-induced disasters in Bangladesh, such as increased frequency and intensity of cyclones, floods, and sea-level rise, have profound impacts on the health and Family Planning sector. Here are some key impacts:

-  **Increased Risk of Waterborne Diseases:** Climate Change-related floods and cyclones can contaminate water sources, leading to a higher risk of waterborne diseases such as diarrhea, cholera, and typhoid. The spread of these diseases can overwhelm healthcare facilities and strain resources for treatment.
-  **Food Insecurity and Malnutrition:** Climate Change affects agricultural productivity, leading to reduced crop yields and food shortages. This can result in increased malnutrition, particularly among vulnerable populations such as pregnant women and children. Malnutrition can have long-term health consequences, including stunting and compromised immune systems.
-  **Vector-Borne Diseases:** Rising temperatures and altered rainfall patterns create favorable conditions for the proliferation of disease-carrying vectors, such as mosquitoes. This increases the transmission of vector-borne diseases like malaria, dengue fever, and Zika virus, placing additional burdens on the healthcare system.
-  **Impacts on Reproductive Health:** Climate Change-related disasters can disrupt access to reproductive health services. Displacement, destruction of healthcare facilities, and limited availability of contraceptives and Family Planning services can lead to unintended pregnancies, unsafe abortions, and increased maternal and infant mortality rates.
-  **Mental Health Challenges:** Climate Change-induced disasters can result in profound psychological impacts, including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), anxiety, depression, and other mental health disorders. Loss of livelihoods, displacement, and the experience of witnessing or surviving extreme events can contribute to long-term psychological distress.
-  **Vulnerability of Marginalized Communities:** Climate Change disproportionately affects marginalized communities, including the poor, women, and ethnic minorities. These communities often have limited access to healthcare facilities, resources, and information, exacerbating their vulnerability to the health impacts of Climate Change-induced disasters.
-  **Strain on Healthcare Infrastructure:** Climate Change-related disasters place significant strain on healthcare infrastructure and resources. Increased patient loads, damage to

healthcare facilities, and disruptions in supply chains can hinder the provision of essential healthcare services, exacerbating the health impacts of disasters.

- 🌸 **Increased Vulnerability of Pregnant Women and Newborns:** Climate Change disasters can pose significant risks to pregnant women and newborns. Extreme weather events like cyclones and floods can disrupt access to healthcare facilities and emergency obstetric care, leading to increased risks during pregnancy and childbirth. Limited access to clean water and sanitation facilities further exacerbates the vulnerability of pregnant women and newborns to infections and other health complications.
- 🌸 **Displacement and Population Disruptions:** Climate Change-related disasters can result in population displacement and migrations. Displaced individuals and communities often face challenges in accessing healthcare services, including reproductive health services and Family Planning. The disruption of social networks and support systems can also impact the overall well-being and mental health of displaced populations.
- 🌸 **Impact on Healthcare Infrastructure:** Climate Change disasters can cause physical damage to healthcare facilities, leading to a temporary or permanent loss of healthcare services. Infrastructure damage can hinder the provision of critical healthcare services, including Family Planning, prenatal care, and emergency medical care. Rebuilding and restoring healthcare infrastructure in the aftermath of disasters can be a significant challenge, requiring substantial resources and time.
- 🌸 **Transportation:** Extreme weather events such as floods and cyclones can damage roads and bridges, making it difficult or impossible to transport patients to and from healthcare facilities. This can lead to delays in treatment and can make it more difficult to provide emergency care.
- 🌸 **Communication:** Power outages and damage to communication infrastructure can disrupt communication between healthcare providers, patients, and their families. This can make it difficult to coordinate care and can lead to delays in treatment.

1.3.6. How Health and Family Planning is a tool for Climate Change Resilience?

Health and family planning can play significant roles as tools for climate change resilience by addressing both the impacts of climate change on human health and the contribution of population growth to greenhouse gas emissions. Here's how they can contribute to building climate change resilience:

a. Health Resilience:

- 🌸 **Climate-Related Health Risks:** Climate change brings about various health risks, including heat-related illnesses, vector-borne diseases (like malaria and dengue), waterborne diseases, and respiratory issues due to air pollution. Strengthening healthcare systems and implementing early warning systems for extreme weather events can enhance a community's ability to cope with and respond to these health challenges.
- 🌸 **Disaster Preparedness and Response:** Health systems need to be well-prepared to handle the increasing frequency and intensity of climate-induced disasters, such as hurricanes,

floods, and heatwaves. Adequate medical supplies, trained personnel, and efficient evacuation plans are crucial for minimizing the health impacts of such disasters.

- 🌸 **Climate-Resilient Infrastructure:** Ensuring that healthcare facilities are designed and built to withstand climate impacts (e.g., flooding, storms) helps maintain essential medical services during and after extreme weather events.

b. Family Planning:

- 🌸 **Population Stabilization:** Rapid population growth leads to increased demand for resources, energy, and food, putting more pressure on the environment and contributing to greenhouse gas emissions. Family planning programs that promote access to voluntary and high-quality reproductive healthcare services can help stabilize population growth rates, easing the strain on resources and reducing carbon footprints.
- 🌸 **Women's Empowerment:** Family planning empowers women by giving them control over their reproductive choices, education, and economic opportunities. Empowered women tend to have smaller family sizes, which can positively impact both family well-being and environmental sustainability.
- 🌸 **Adaptation to Climate Change:** Family planning can enhance a community's capacity to adapt to climate change impacts. Smaller family sizes mean fewer dependents, allowing families to allocate more resources to adapt to changing environmental conditions.
- 🌸 **Health and Education:** Family planning services are often integrated with healthcare and educational programs. Better access to healthcare and education can improve overall community health and resilience, as educated populations are more likely to adopt sustainable practices and understand climate-related health risks.

By integrating health and family planning into climate change resilience strategies, societies can reduce vulnerabilities, improve adaptive capacity, and contribute to a more sustainable and resilient future. These efforts can complement other climate change adaptation and mitigation measures, promoting holistic and effective approaches to address the challenges posed by climate change.

1.4. Story and Group Work:

1.4.1. Story -1: Inundated Hope: A Chronicle of Challenging Pregnancies in Flood-Prone Bangladesh

In the flood prone Haor region of Bangladesh, the monsoon rains had swelled the rivers, causing widespread flooding. Among the affected residents was Rina, a young woman during her pregnancy. As the waters rose, her situation became increasingly precarious. Rina and her husband, Raju, had struggled to find shelter amidst the chaos. The floodwaters had engulfed their home, forcing them to seek refuge on higher ground. With no access to medical facilities or prenatal care, Rina's pregnancy became a cause for concern. Days turned into weeks, and Rina's condition deteriorated. The unsanitary conditions, lack of nutritious food, and limited healthcare options took a toll on her health and the well-being of her unborn child. Raju, overwhelmed with worry, tried his best to provide for Rina, but the dire circumstances seemed insurmountable.

As the floodwaters receded, a glimmer of hope emerged. Relief workers and medical teams arrived in the region, providing much-needed assistance. Rina and Raju managed to reach a temporary medical camp set up by an aid organization. However, they soon encountered another problem—overwhelmed and understaffed medical facilities. The camp was inundated with pregnant women and flood-related injuries, stretching the resources thin. Rina's hopes for proper prenatal care dwindled as she witnessed the chaotic and problematic management of the situation. The medical staff, though dedicated, were stretched beyond their limits. The lack of essential supplies, inadequate facilities, and a shortage of trained personnel created a breeding ground for mistakes and oversights. Rina's concerns about her unborn child's health grew, adding to the stress and uncertainty she already faced.

As her due date approached, Rina's fears intensified. The disorganized system made it difficult to monitor her pregnancy and ensure a safe delivery. The medical staff, grappling with the overwhelming number of patients, struggled to provide the necessary attention and support. When the time came for Rina to give birth, complications arose. The limited resources and strained medical team could not offer the immediate assistance she desperately needed. The problematic management of the flood crisis had taken a toll on her and her unborn child, leaving them vulnerable and at risk. Despite the challenges, Rina managed to deliver her baby with the help of a tired but dedicated midwife. The relief of a successful birth was overshadowed by the knowledge that the postnatal care they required would be equally inadequate.

Rina's story epitomized the problematic nature of managing pregnancies during floods in the Haor region. The lack of preparedness, limited resources, and overwhelming medical facilities posed significant risks to the health and well-being of both mothers and their babies. As Rina held her newborn in her arms, she hoped that her story would serve as a wake-up call to authorities and aid organizations. She longed for improved disaster management strategies, increased investment in healthcare infrastructure, and better coordination between relief efforts and medical services.

Rina's challenging journey had left an indelible mark, and she vowed to advocate for the rights of pregnant women in flood-prone areas. She knew that change was desperately needed to ensure that no other woman would have to face the same problematic circumstances during such a vulnerable and crucial period of their lives.

1.4.1.a. Group Work-1 Title: Enhancing Maternal Healthcare in Flood-Prone Regions: Building Resilience and Preparedness

Objective: The objective of this group work is to bring together health sector professionals to discuss and strategize on improving maternal healthcare in flood-prone regions, taking inspiration from the challenges faced by Rina and other pregnant women in the Haor region of Bangladesh.

Introduction (5 minutes)

- ❖ Provide an overview of the story of Rina and the challenges she faced during her pregnancy in a flood-prone area.
- ❖ Highlight the importance of maternal healthcare in such vulnerable environments.
- ❖ Set the goals for the group work session.

Understanding the Challenges (5 minutes)

- ❖ Facilitate a discussion to identify the key challenges faced by pregnant women in flood-prone regions.
- ❖ Discuss the impact of limited resources, inadequate facilities, and overwhelmed medical services on maternal health.
- ❖ Explore the implications of unsanitary conditions, lack of nutrition, and disrupted access to prenatal and postnatal care.

Sharing Best Practices (10 minutes)

- ❖ Encourage participants to share their experiences and success stories related to managing maternal healthcare during natural disasters.
- ❖ Discuss strategies that have proven effective in improving preparedness, resource allocation, and coordination in similar contexts.
- ❖ Explore innovative approaches and technologies that can be leveraged to enhance maternal healthcare in flood-prone regions.

Developing Action Plans (10 minutes)

- ❖ Divide participants into smaller groups and assign each group a specific aspect of maternal healthcare (e.g., prenatal care, emergency obstetric services, postnatal support, infrastructure development).
- ❖ Task the groups with brainstorming actionable steps to address the identified challenges in their assigned area.
- ❖ Discuss and refine the action plans within each group.
- ❖ Share the action plans with the larger group and foster a collaborative discussion to prioritize and consolidate the ideas.

Strategies for Implementation (10 minutes)

- ❖ Discuss the potential barriers and limitations that may hinder the implementation of the action plans.
- ❖ Identify strategies to overcome these barriers, including advocacy, policy reforms, partnerships, and resource mobilization.
- ❖ Highlight the importance of multi-sectoral collaboration and community engagement in achieving sustainable improvements.

Presentation (15 minutes)

- ❖ Invite each group to present their action plan to the larger group.
- ❖ Facilitate a discussion to receive feedback, suggestions, and questions from participants.
- ❖ Encourage participants to identify common themes or strategies that can be adopted collectively.
- ❖ Discuss potential barriers and limitations to implementation and strategies to overcome them.

Conclusion and Next Steps (5 minutes)

- ❖ Summarize the key points discussed during the session.
- ❖ Encourage participants to pledge their commitment to supporting maternal healthcare in flood-prone regions.
- ❖ Discuss potential follow-up actions, such as forming working groups, seeking funding opportunities, or collaborating on research and knowledge sharing initiatives.

By engaging health sector professionals in this group work, we can foster collaboration and collective efforts to address the challenges faced by pregnant women in flood-prone regions. The session aims to generate practical solutions and inspire participants to take actionable steps towards ensuring resilient and effective maternal healthcare in these vulnerable environments.

1.4.2. Story-2 Title: "Breaking Taboos, Ensuring Dignity: Transforming Menstrual Hygiene Management in Cyclone-Prone Bangladesh"

Cox's Bazar cyclone-prone coastal regions of Bangladesh, the fierce winds and torrential rains brought about by the storm had forced many families to seek refuge at the local cyclone shelter. Among them was Shila, a young adolescent girl who found herself experiencing her first menstruation during this time of crisis. As the storm raged outside, Shila felt a mix of confusion and fear. The lack of knowledge and understanding about menstruation within her community had left her unprepared for this significant milestone in her life. Additionally, the cyclone shelter's management and infrastructure were ill-equipped to address the specific needs of adolescent girls like Shila. Inside the overcrowded shelter, Shila's feel fear, shy and hesitated to reach out for help. The limited privacy and lack of appropriate facilities made her uncomfortable, compounding her anxiety. She watched as the shelter's staff struggled to provide basic necessities and maintain order amidst the chaos. But some of the adolescent boys are Laughing to see the shila's situation thatwhy she was very separated from others. It is true that, Shila is inteligent and brilliant and she driven by a sense of resilience and determination, Shila mustered the courage to approach to her mother after that her mother talk to a female volunteer at the shelter. Through hesitant words, she managed to convey her predicament, sharing her need for sanitary products and guidance on managing her menstruation.

The volunteer, though sympathetic, had not anticipated this particular issue. She realized the problematic nature of the situation and sought assistance from the shelter's management team. Together, they quickly realized that addressing the menstrual needs of adolescent girls was a critical aspect of disaster management that had been overlooked. Efforts were made to create a safe and dignified space for adolescent girls like Shila. Separate, private areas were designated within the shelter, equipped with essential hygiene supplies and disposal options for used menstrual products. The female volunteers received crash courses on menstruation, enabling them to provide accurate information and support to the girls in need.

Shila's story spread among the other girls in the shelter, and soon they found solace in each other's shared experiences. They formed a support network, openly discussing their menstrual challenges, and offering each other guidance and encouragement. As the storm subsided and the floodwaters receded, Shila reflected on her experience. While the cyclone had wreaked havoc on her community, it had also shed light on a social problem that demanded attention—ensuring the dignity, well-being, and inclusion of adolescent girls during emergencies. Shila's emerging story became a catalyst for change. Community leaders and disaster management authorities took note, recognizing the importance of addressing menstrual hygiene management as part of their emergency response plans. They collaborated with NGOs and local organizations to incorporate menstrual health education, access to sanitary products, and safe spaces for adolescent girls in cyclone shelters.

Through Shila's courage and the collective efforts of those involved, progress was made. The problematic management of menstrual needs during emergencies gradually transformed into a

more compassionate and inclusive approach. Shila's journey marked a turning point, not only in her life but also in the lives of countless other adolescent girls facing similar challenges. They now had a voice, their needs were acknowledged, and steps were taken to ensure their dignity and well-being during emergencies. The story of Shila's first menstruation at the cyclone shelter became a symbol of empowerment and resilience. It inspired communities to confront social problems, challenge taboos, and create a more inclusive and supportive environment for all, even in the most challenging circumstances.

1.4.2.a. Group Work-2 Title: Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Challenges and the Way Forward in Cyclone-Prone Bangladesh

Objective: The objective of this group work is to bring together health professionals to discuss and strategize on addressing the challenges related to menstrual hygiene management (MHM) in cyclone-prone regions of Bangladesh. The focus will be on identifying difficulties faced during emergencies and developing solutions for effective MHM practices.

Introduction (5 minutes)

- ❖ Provide an overview of the significance of MHM during emergencies, particularly in cyclone-prone regions.
- ❖ Present the objectives and expected outcomes of the group work session.
- ❖ Set the stage for open and constructive discussions.

Debriefing: MHM Challenges in Cyclone-Prone Regions (5 minutes)

- ❖ Deliver a presentation highlighting the specific challenges related to MHM in cyclone-prone areas.
- ❖ Discuss the impact of limited resources, inadequate infrastructure, lack of awareness, social stigma, and cultural taboos.
- ❖ Share case studies and examples to illustrate the difficulties faced by girls and women during cyclones and other emergencies.

Group Discussions: Identifying MHM Difficulties (10 minutes)

- ❖ Divide participants into smaller groups and assign each group a specific focus area, such as resources, infrastructure, education, stigma, or cultural practices.
- ❖ Encourage participants to share their experiences and insights related to MHM challenges in cyclone-prone regions.
- ❖ Facilitate a discussion within each group to identify and discuss the difficulties faced in their assigned focus area.
- ❖ Prompt participants to think creatively and consider innovative solutions.

Group Presentations: Solutions and the Way Forward (15 minutes)

- ❖ Invite each group to present the MHM difficulties they identified and propose potential solutions.

- ❖ Encourage participants to share practical strategies, innovative ideas, and best practices to address the challenges.
- ❖ Facilitate a constructive discussion among the participants to explore the feasibility and effectiveness of the proposed solutions.
- ❖ Emphasize the importance of considering the cultural, social, and environmental context of cyclone-prone regions in implementing solutions.

Action Plan Development (10 minutes)

- ❖ Bring all participants together to collectively develop an action plan based on the identified challenges and proposed solutions.
- ❖ Assign responsibilities, set achievable goals, and define timelines for implementing the action plan.
- ❖ Encourage participants to consider collaboration, advocacy, capacity building, and resource mobilization as key elements of the plan.
- ❖ Discuss potential monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to track progress and ensure sustainability.

Conclusion and Next Steps (5 minutes)

- ❖ Summarize the key points discussed during the session.
- ❖ Encourage participants to commit to the implementation of the action plan and to support ongoing efforts in MHM in cyclone-prone regions.
- ❖ Discuss potential follow-up actions, such as creating a platform for sharing resources and best practices, establishing partnerships, or advocating for policy changes.
- ❖ Emphasize the importance of documentation and knowledge sharing to benefit wider communities and stakeholders.

By conducting this group work, health professionals can collectively address the challenges faced in menstrual hygiene management during emergencies in cyclone-prone regions. The session aims to generate practical solutions, promote innovative approaches, and foster collaborations to ensure effective MHM practices that prioritize the dignity and well-being of girls and women in cyclone-affected areas.

1.4.3. Story-3 Title: Broken Dreams: Confronting the Harsh Realities of Child Marriage Amidst Disaster

In the village of northern Bangladesh, the Ahmed family led a modest life as farmers. Hassan Ahmed, a hardworking father, and Farida, a caring mother, cherished their two children, Amina and her younger brother Hasan. Tragedy struck their lives when a devastating flash flood ravaged their village, leaving behind a trail of destruction and despair.

The floodwaters mercilessly swept away the family's cherished crops, plunging them into a state of deep anguish. The loss of their livelihood left Hassan overwhelmed with financial burdens, unable to fathom how he would provide for his loved ones. In a desperate attempt to cope with the dire circumstances, a misguided idea took hold of Hassan's mind.

Filled with desperation and hopelessness, Hassan made a heart-wrenching decision. Believing that marrying off his fifteen-year-old daughter, Amina, would alleviate their financial struggles, he arranged for her marriage. The family organized the wedding amidst the chaos left by the flood, hoping it would offer a semblance of stability and relief.

However, the consequences of this ill-fated decision began to unravel. Amina, still a child herself, faced numerous challenges associated with early marriage. The flood had thrust upon her additional vulnerabilities, exacerbating the risks she already faced. The burden of managing a marital relationship and household responsibilities weighed heavily on her young shoulders, hindering her education, personal growth, and overall well-being.

As the floodwaters receded and the community began to rebuild, Amina's dreams and aspirations were eclipsed by the harsh realities of her circumstances. The lack of proper support and guidance further compounded her vulnerability, isolating her from opportunities for growth and independence.

Tragically, the detrimental effects of child marriage soon became painfully apparent. Amina's delicate body, unprepared for the challenges of pregnancy, succumbed to numerous complications. After just four months, she experienced a devastating miscarriage, leaving her physically and emotionally scarred. The consequences of early marriage and the toll it took on her young life became undeniable.

Amidst the family's struggle, Hasan, Amina's younger brother, witnessed the heartbreaking consequences of child marriage firsthand. The pain and suffering experienced by his beloved sister served as a wake-up call, highlighting the detrimental impact of such practices on young girls. Determined to break this cycle, Hasan vowed to support his sister and advocate for change within their community.

The Ahmed family's story laid bare the devastating effects of child marriage, particularly when compounded by the vulnerabilities brought about by natural disasters. It underscored the urgent need for awareness, education, and support systems to protect young girls like Amina from the perils of early marriage.

Their journey served as a rallying cry to confront the deep-rooted social norms that perpetuate child marriage and its detrimental consequences. Through Hasan's determination and the collective efforts of community members, discussions began, awareness campaigns were launched, and support networks were established to protect the rights and well-being of young girls.

The Ahmed family's heartbreaking experience became a catalyst for change, fueling a movement to eradicate child marriage, empower young girls, and provide them with opportunities for education, personal growth, and a brighter future. Their story became a testament to resilience, strength, and the power of united voices fighting for the rights of every child.

1.4.3.a. Group Work-3 Title: Empowering Health Service Providers in Combating Early Marriage and Its Consequences

Objective: The objective of this group work is to engage health service providers in discussions and collaborative strategies to protect young individuals from early marriage and address the physical, emotional, and social consequences associated with it. The focus will be on enhancing the capacity of health professionals to provide comprehensive support and advocacy for vulnerable populations.

❖ Introduction and Icebreaker (5 minutes)

- ❖ Welcome participants and introduce the purpose of the group work.
- ❖ Conduct an icebreaker activity to encourage participants to share their experiences, perspectives, and expectations regarding early marriage and its consequences.

Debriefing: Understanding Early Marriage and Its Impact (5 minutes)

- ❖ Deliver a presentation providing an overview of early marriage, its prevalence, and its negative consequences on physical, emotional, and social well-being.
- ❖ Discuss the specific vulnerabilities faced by young girls, the impact on their education, health, and personal development, and the perpetuation of gender inequality.
- ❖ Highlight the case study from the story, emphasizing the challenges faced by Amina and her family due to early marriage.

Group Discussions: Role of Health Service Providers in Prevention and Intervention (10 minutes)

- ❖ Divide participants into smaller groups to foster focused discussions.
- ❖ Facilitate group discussions on the potential role of health service providers in preventing early marriage, identifying at-risk individuals, and intervening to protect vulnerable populations.
- ❖ Encourage participants to share insights, challenges, and potential strategies based on their professional experiences.

Case Study Analysis and Best Practices (10 minutes)

- ❖ Present real-life case studies related to early marriage and its consequences.
- ❖ Engage participants in a collective analysis of the cases, identifying the role health service providers can play in preventing early marriage, providing support, and promoting the well-being of affected individuals.
- ❖ Share best practices and successful interventions from various contexts to inspire and inform participants.

Skill-Building Exercises: Enhancing Support and Advocacy (10 minutes)

- ❖ Conduct interactive exercises to enhance the capacity of health service providers in supporting individuals affected by early marriage.
- ❖ Focus on building skills related to effective communication, providing non-judgmental care, offering trauma-informed support, and linking individuals to appropriate resources and services.
- ❖ Discuss strategies for promoting reproductive health, Family Planning , and gender equality within communities.

Action Planning and Collaboration (10 minutes)

- ❖ Bring participants together for a collaborative session to develop action plans based on the group discussions and skill-building exercises.
- ❖ Identify concrete steps and strategies that health service providers can implement to protect individuals from early marriage and support those affected.
- ❖ Discuss opportunities for collaboration among health professionals, community organizations, and local authorities to address the root causes and consequences of early marriage.

Group Presentations: Sharing Action Plans (15 minutes)

- ❖ Each group presents their action plan, highlighting the strategies, goals, and steps they have formulated.
- ❖ Allow time for questions, feedback, and discussion after each presentation to encourage cross-learning and collaboration among participants.
- ❖ Emphasize the importance of sharing knowledge and best practices to strengthen the collective effort in combating early marriage.

Conclusion and Next Steps (5 minutes)

- ❖ Summarize the key insights and action plans generated during the group work session.
- ❖ Discuss potential follow-up actions, such as establishing a support network, creating awareness campaigns, or advocating for policy changes to protect individuals from early marriage.

- ❖ Encourage participants to share the knowledge gained from the group work within their professional networks and actively contribute to efforts aimed at preventing early marriage and its negative consequences.

By engaging health service providers in this group work, it is possible to harness their expertise and commitment to address early marriage and its repercussions effectively. The session aims to equip health professionals with the necessary knowledge, skills, and strategies to protect vulnerable populations, advocate for their rights, and foster a supportive environment that promotes the well-being and empowerment of individuals affected by early marriage.

Section-Two

Integrating Gender Transformative approach in Climate Induced Disaster Management



Section 2: Integrating Gender Transformative approach in Climate Induced Disaster Management

2.A. Introduction:

Gender-based violence and discrimination against women and girls often increase during disasters and emergency situations. To address this problem, this training Manual aims to provide participants with a deeper understanding of gender issues in Bangladesh during disasters and emergency situations and empower them to take action to promote gender equality and prevent gender-based violence in these contexts.

Story: The training Manual is based on the story of Ayesha, a young woman from a coastal village in Bangladesh. Ayesha and her family have lived through multiple natural disasters, including cyclones and floods. During these disasters, Ayesha has witnessed firsthand the disproportionate impact on women and girls, who are often left vulnerable to gender-based violence and exploitation.






Despite these challenges, Ayesha has become a leader in her community, advocating for the rights of women and girls during disasters and emergency situations. Through her work, she has helped to ensure that women and girls have access to emergency services, safe shelter, and support to recover from the impact of disasters.

2.B. Objective of the Section:

Understand and apply gender transformative and gender sensitive approaches in climate induced disaster management by Health and Family Planning sector in Bangladesh.

2.C. Section Learning Objective:






Apply gender transformative and gender-sensitive approaches in climate-induced disaster management by the Health and Family Planning sector in Bangladesh to achieve the following objectives: After completing this training, participants will be able to:

-  Recognize and address the distinct vulnerabilities and capacities of different genders in disaster planning and response.
-  Integrate gender perspectives into disaster risk assessments to ensure inclusive and equitable mitigation strategies.
-  Design gender-responsive disaster preparedness plans that empower women and marginalized gender groups.
-  Implement gender-inclusive disaster response and recovery measures, ensuring equal access to healthcare and family planning services.
-  Promote gender mainstreaming in health and family planning policies to enhance resilience and address climate change impacts more effectively.






2.D. Section Time: 1 Day (8 Hours)





2.E. Outcome of this Section:

After conducting this section following outcomes will be achieved-

-  Increased resilience of communities through the empowerment of women and girls in climate-induced disaster contexts.
-  Gender-responsive disaster management, ensuring inclusive and effective responses that address the specific needs and perspectives of women and girls.
-  Improved livelihoods and economic empowerment for women and girls, contributing to poverty reduction and sustainable development.
-  Enhanced health and well-being outcomes by addressing the gender dimensions of climate-induced disasters.
-  Strengthened community resilience and adaptive capacities through the meaningful participation and leadership of women and girls in Climate Change adaptation and disaster risk reduction efforts.

2.F. Section Guideline:

	<p>TOTAL SECTION TIME One Day (6 Hour)</p>	
	<p>NUMBER OF SESSIONS Session 2.1: Understanding Gender in Disaster Session 2.2: Empowering Women and Girls Session 2.3: Stories on gender balance/equity in society. Session 2.4 Promoting Gender Equality in Climate Induced Disaster Management Session 2.5: Conclusion and Action Plan</p>	
	<p>TRAINER NOTE In this section, focus on promoting a gender-transformative approach in disaster management, challenging gender norms, and empowering women and marginalized groups. Emphasize intersectionality and inclusivity to address diverse needs and vulnerabilities. Encourage participatory planning and decision-making for more effective and equitable outcomes.</p>	
	<p>SECTION OBJECTIVES Understand and apply gender transformative and gender sensitive approaches in climate induced disaster management by Health and Family Planning sector in Bangladesh.</p>	
	<p>METHODOLOGIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive Discussion • Case Studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Materials • Peer Learning • Reflection and Discussion • Action Planning

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expert Talks • Group Exercises 	
	MATERIALS NEEDED Projector and Screen Flipcharts or Whiteboard with Markers Laptop or Computer Handouts and Printed Training Materials Real-Life Case Studies and Research Papers	Name Tags and Badges Notepads and Pens for Participants Access to Online Resources and Research Databases
	ADVANCE PREPARATION Research and Gather Information Develop Training Materials Invite Expert Speakers Plan Group Exercises	Set Training Agenda Test Technical Equipment Prepare Reflection Questions Organize Logistics Send Pre-training Materials
	REFERENCE WHO.org, Brac.org, brac.net, World Bank	
	FOR GROUP DISCUSSION / ACTION PLAN There are No Group discussion in this section. One action will be made by participants	

2.G. Section Outline:

SL	Subject matter	Time
2.1	Session 2.1: Understanding Gender in Disaster 2.1.1. Introduction basic concept of Gender Terminology 2.1.2. Overview of the impact of disasters on women and girls focusing Health and Family Planning in Bangladesh 2.1.3. Discussion on the intersectionality of gender, class, and other factors in disaster situations in BD	60 minutes
2.2	Session 2.2: Empowering Women and Girls: 2.2.1. Overview of the women empowerment, aspects of women empowerment, empower women and girls in a leadership role during disaster management. ❖ Key Strategies to Empower Women? 2.2.2. Why female leadership is crucial to tackling Climate Change and Climate induced Disaster in Bangladesh Perspective 2.2.3. Overview of the key strategies to empower women and girls in climate induced disaster situations, including access to education, economic opportunities, and leadership roles. 2.2.4. Importance of empowering women and girls for CCA and DRR in Bangladesh?	60 minutes
2.3	Session 2.3: Stories on gender balance/equity in society. 2.3.1. Story 1- Title: Empowering Women's Voices: Ensuring Participation in Decision-Making in Disaster preparedness.	60 minutes

	<p>2.3.2. Story 2: Title: "Breaking Barriers: A Heroine of Health in the Face of Disaster"</p> <p>2.3.3. Story-3: Title- "Gender Sensitive Disaster Response: A Tale of Woman Empowerment in the Face of Disaster"</p>	
2.4	<p>Session 2.4: Promoting Gender Equality in Disaster Management</p> <p>2.4.1. Introduction to Gender Equality and Climate-Induced Disasters</p> <p>2.4.2. Why Gender Analysis and gender equity is essential in Climate-Induced Disaster Management?</p> <p>2.4.3. Gender-Sensitive Early Warning Systems for Effective Climate Induced Disaster Management</p> <p>2.4.4. Discuss Gender-Responsive Disaster Preparedness and Response for Climate-Induced Disaster in Bangladesh Perspective</p> <p>2.4.5. Advocacy and Partnerships for Gender Equality in Climate Change Resilience in Bangladesh Perspective</p> <p>2.4.6. How to ensure gender equity in our society during emergency and disaster periods:</p> <p>2.4.7. How to ensure the gender issue in health and family service delivery during disaster?</p>	90minutes
2.5	<p>Session 5: Conclusion and Action Plan</p> <p>2.5.1. Discussion on the action plan for participants to promote gender equality and prevent gender-based violence in disaster situations.</p> <p>Action Plan Title: Gender-Sensitive Disaster Preparedness Plan for the Health Sector (Upazila Base)</p>	90minutes

Session 2.1: Understanding Gender in Disaster

2.1.1. Introduction basic concept of Gender, sex, and Gender Discrimination in disaster situations

Here are some statistics on gender discrimination in disaster in Bangladesh:



Mortality: In the 1991 cyclone Gorky, 90% of the fatalities were women. This is because women are more likely to be at home during a disaster, and they are less likely to have access to resources such as shelter and food. (World Health Organization, 1992)



Injuries: Women are also more likely to be injured in disasters than men. This is because they are more likely to be exposed to hazards, and they are less likely to have access to protective gear. For example, in the 2007 cyclone Sidr, 60% of the injuries were sustained by women.



Livelihood: In the aftermath of the 2007 cyclone Sidr, women and girls were more likely to be displaced from their homes and to experience food insecurity. According to a study by the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), women and girls made up 69% of the displaced population after cyclone Sidr. They were also more likely to experience food insecurity, with 85% of women and girls reporting that they had not had enough to eat in the two weeks after the cyclone.



GBV: During the 2017 Rohingya refugee crisis, women and girls were more likely to be subjected to sexual violence and exploitation. A study by the UNHCR found that 60% of Rohingya women and girls who had fled to Bangladesh had experienced sexual violence. The study also found that 75% of women and girls had been denied access to healthcare.



Healthcare Service: In the aftermath of the 2019 floods, women and girls were more likely to be denied access to healthcare and education. A study by the BRAC found that women and girls were more likely to be denied access to healthcare and education after the 2019 floods. The study found that 60% of women and girls had been unable to access healthcare, and 40% had been unable to access education.



Education: Disasters can also disrupt women's education. This is because schools are often closed during disasters, and girls are often the first to be withdrawn from school. For example, in the aftermath of the 2016 Rohingya refugee crisis, many girls in Bangladesh were unable to continue their education.

These are just a few examples of the gender discrimination that women and girls face in Bangladesh during and after disasters. It is important to note that these statistics only reflect the cases that have been reported. It is likely that the true extent of gender discrimination in disaster in Bangladesh is much higher.

Gender: Gender refers to the social and cultural roles, expectations, and norms associated with being male or female, while sex refers to the biological differences between males and females. Gender is not the same as sex, although the two are often used interchangeably. (WHO,2019)

In Bangladesh, like in many other cultures, gender is a socially constructed concept that refers to the roles, behaviors, and expectations associated with being male or female. Gender is a complex and multifaceted concept that intersects with other identities such as class, ethnicity, and religion.

One example of the gender concept in Bangladesh can be seen in the country's traditional gender roles. In many households, men are expected to be the breadwinners and decision-makers, while women are expected to take care of the household and children. Women are often discouraged from pursuing education or careers outside the home.

Sex: “Sex refers to “the different biological and physiological characteristics of males and females, such as reproductive organs, chromosomes, hormones, etc.” (WHO,2019)

Sex refers to the biological characteristics that distinguish males and females, typically based on reproductive organs, hormones, and chromosomes. In humans, sex is determined by the presence of either XX or XY chromosomes, which determine the development of male or female reproductive organs.

However, it is important to note that sex is not always binary, as intersex individuals may have variations in their sex chromosomes, hormones, and/or reproductive organs that do not fit into traditional male or female categories. Additionally, some individuals may identify as transgender, meaning their gender identity differs from the sex they were assigned at birth.



Source: calpeculiarities.com

Gender Vs Sex: This table provides a more detailed comparison of gender and sex, taking into account additional aspects. However, it's important to remember that these concepts are complex and can be experienced and understood differently by individuals.

Aspect	Gender	Sex
Definition	A social and cultural construct encompassing roles, behaviors, activities, and expectations deemed appropriate for males and females.	Biological differences between male and female, typically determined by reproductive organs, chromosomes, and hormones.
Determination	Assigned by society and can vary across different cultures and societies.	Assigned at birth based on physical characteristics such as genitalia.
Expression	Can be expressed and experienced in various ways, including identification	Typically expressed as male or female, with intersex individuals

	as male, female, both, neither, or other gender identities.	having variations in biological sex characteristics.
Fluidity	Gender identities can be fluid and may change over time.	Biological sex is generally considered to be fixed and unchanging.
Cultural Influence	Shaped by social, cultural, and historical factors, and varies across different societies and time periods.	Less influenced by social and cultural factors and is more rooted in biological characteristics.
Examples	Gender identity, gender roles, gender expression, gender stereotypes.	Male, female, intersex.

Gender Equality: Gender equality requires equal enjoyment by women and men of socially valued goods, opportunities, resources and rewards. Where gender inequality exists, it is generally women who are excluded or disadvantaged in relation to decision-making and access to economic and social resources.

Gender equity: Gender equity is the process of being fair to women and men according to their respective needs. To ensure fairness, strategies and measures are needed to compensate for women’s historical and social disadvantages that prevent women and men from otherwise operating on a level playing field. The picture demonstrates the comparison of gender equity with ‘equality’ (where it has been assumed that everyone benefits equally from the same support). (Source: enterprise-development.org,2020)

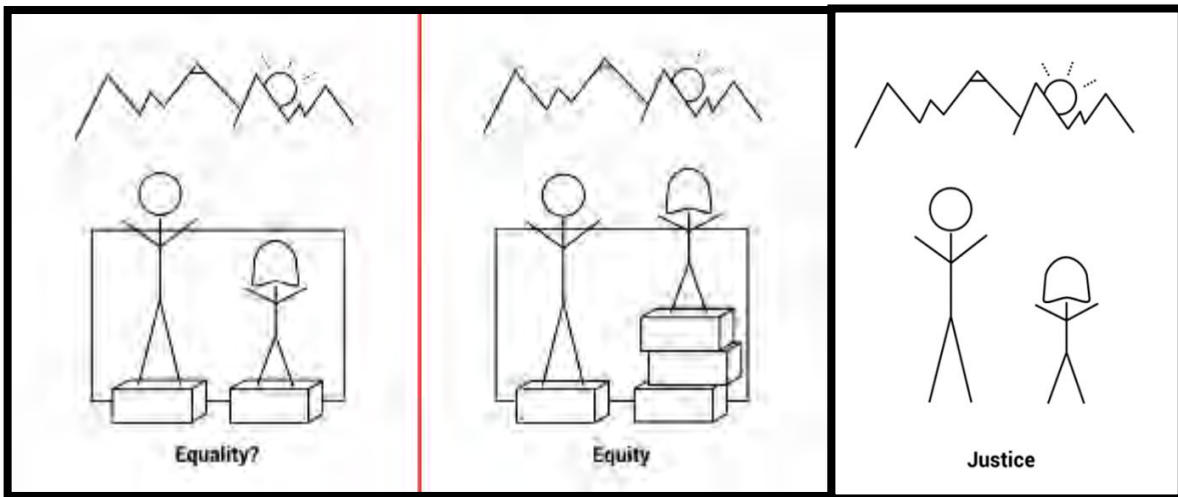


Figure 6: Gender Equity Vs Equality

Source: enterprise-development.org,2020

Gender Blindness: This term refers to the failure to recognize that the roles and responsibilities of men/boys and women/girls are assigned to them in specific social, cultural, economic, and political contexts and backgrounds. Projects, programs, policies and attitudes which are gender blind do not take into account these different roles and diverse needs. They maintain the status quo and will not help transform the unequal structure of gender relations. (unesco.org,2016)

Gender awareness: Gender awareness is the opposite of gender blindness. To be gender aware means to be in tune with the differences, expectations, and needs of people of different genders. *(unescwa.org,2016)*

Gender sensitive/Conscious: Gender sensitive means that there is an awareness of different roles, responsibilities and inequalities. This is necessary to start addressing the barriers to gender equality that hinder women’s economic empowerment. *(Source: enterprise-development.org,2020)*

Gender positive: Gender positive means actively considering the barriers that women face and putting in the necessary effort to ensure that the respective needs of men and women are met for both to participate and benefit. This approach builds on gender sensitivity and focuses on gender equity. *(Source: enterprise-development.org,2020)*

Gender bias: Gender bias is the tendency to favor one gender over others or to make assumptions about someone based on their gender. It can lead to gender-based discrimination, which is when someone receives different treatment because of their gender. *(Source: enterprise-development.org,2020)*

Gender-sensitive: Gender sensitive is an approach to planning and decision-making that takes into account the different needs, priorities, and experiences of women and men. It is based on the understanding that gender is a social construct, and that the roles, responsibilities, and opportunities of women and men are shaped by social, cultural, and economic factors. *(eige.europa.eu,2023)*

Gender transformative: Gender transformative means that systemic change can occur through the Women Economic Empowerment (WEE) initiative. Gender transformative programs or initiatives challenge existing gender roles, responsibilities and unequal power relations, thereby addressing root causes of gender inequality, towards gender justice. *(Source: enterprise-development.org,2020)*

Gender-Sensitive Approach: Gender-sensitive approach is an approach to planning and decision-making that takes into account the different needs, priorities, and experiences of women and men. It is based on the understanding that gender is a social construct, and that the roles, responsibilities, and opportunities of women and men are shaped by social, cultural, and economic factors. *(eige.europa.eu,2023)*

Gender Transformative Approaches: Gender transformative approaches seek to challenge gender inequality by transforming harmful gender norms, roles and relations, while working towards redistributing power, resources, and services more equally. *(UNFPA.org)*

Gender-Sensitive Approach vs Gender Transformative Approaches

Characteristic	Gender-sensitive approach	Gender-transformative approach
Goal	To ensure that women and men have equal opportunities	To challenge and transform the underlying causes of gender inequality

Focus	On the different needs and experiences of women and men	On the root causes of gender inequality, such as harmful gender norms and stereotypes
Outcomes	Increased participation of women and men in decision-making	Transformation of gender relations and the achievement of gender equality
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improves access to and quality of healthcare services for all genders. Creates a more equitable and inclusive health system. Challenges gender stereotypes and norms. Empowers women and marginalized genders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improves access to and quality of healthcare services for all genders. Considers gender-related factors, such as reproductive health needs, gender-based violence, and socio-cultural contexts. Tailors' healthcare services to the specific needs of different genders.

(UNFPA.org)

Gender Transformative Programming


Gender transformative programming refers to integrating the gender transformative approach into project and programme design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

It promotes gender transformative change at the individual and systemic level and across informal and formal spheres of life. At the core of gender transformative programming lie interventions that aim at addressing practical gender needs (e.g. knowledge, skills, access to productive resources) and strategic gender interests (e.g. decision-making power, position/status in society) by triggering changes in agency, social relations and social structures. (fao.org)

Gender discrimination: Gender discrimination occurs when people are treated differently based on their gender, which often leads to unequal access to opportunities, resources, and services. Gender discrimination can take many forms, including sexual harassment, unequal pay for equal work, and limited access to education, healthcare, and political participation. (Soken-Huberty, E., 2023)

In disaster situations, gender and sex play a significant role in determining how people are affected, their vulnerability and their resilience. Gender roles and norms often determine who has access to resources and decision-making power in a community, which can impact how women, men, and children are affected by disasters. Women and children are often more vulnerable to the effects of disasters, as they may have limited access to resources, be subjected to sexual violence, and face higher rates of mortality due to lack of access to healthcare. Gender discrimination can also contribute to unequal distribution of aid and resources during and after disasters, which further exacerbates existing inequalities.

Aspects of Gender Discrimination: There are various forms of gender discrimination that can occur in different aspects of life. Here are some common forms of gender discrimination:

-  **Employment Discrimination:** This occurs when individuals are treated unfairly in the workplace based on their gender. It can include practices such as pay disparities, hiring biases, promotion limitations, and sexual harassment.

- ✿ **Wage Gap:** This refers to the difference in average earnings between men and women. Women often face lower wages for performing the same job or similar work as men.
- ✿ **Gender Stereotyping:** This involves making assumptions or generalizations about individuals based on their gender, which can lead to unequal treatment and limited opportunities. For example, assuming that women are not suited for leadership positions or that men are not nurturing caregivers.
- ✿ **Educational Discrimination:** This occurs when individuals are denied equal educational opportunities based on their gender. It can involve biased admissions, limited access to certain subjects or fields of study, or inadequate resources and support.
- ✿ **Gender-based Violence:** This refers to any form of violence, such as domestic violence, sexual assault, or harassment, that is primarily directed at an individual based on their gender. Women are disproportionately affected by gender-based violence, but it can impact individuals of any gender.
- ✿ **Restrictive Gender Roles:** This involves societal expectations and norms that dictate specific roles, behaviors, and responsibilities for individuals based on their gender. It can limit opportunities and choices, such as pressuring women to prioritize caregiving over career advancement or stigmatizing men who express emotions.
- ✿ **Lack of Political Representation:** This refers to the underrepresentation of women in political positions and decision-making roles. It can result in policies and laws that do not adequately address the needs and rights of women and perpetuate gender inequality.
- ✿ **Access to Healthcare:** Gender discrimination in healthcare can involve unequal access to reproductive healthcare services, inadequate research and funding for women's health issues, or biases in treatment and diagnosis.

Climate Change and Gender Discrimination

Climate change affects people around the world in various ways, and its impact is not gender neutral. Both men and women experience the consequences of climate change, but gender discrimination exacerbates the vulnerability of women in coping with and adapting to the challenges posed by global warming. Below are some key statistics that highlight the relationship between climate change and gender discrimination:

- ✿ **Disproportionate Effects on Women:** According to the United Nations, women make up around 80% of those who are displaced by climate change. This is because women are more likely to live in poverty and have limited access to resources, making them more vulnerable to the impacts of extreme weather events and environmental changes. (Un.org,2023)
- ✿ **Access to Resources:** The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) reports that women in developing countries, especially rural areas, are responsible for providing water, food, and fuel for their families. As climate change affects these resources, women's burden often increases, impacting their health and well-being. (undp.org,2023)

- ❁ **Health Impacts:** The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that 80% of people displaced by climate-related disasters are women. Women's health is also affected due to increased exposure to indoor air pollution when they have to rely on traditional cooking methods in the absence of clean energy sources.
- ❁ **Education and Employment:** During climate-related crises, girls' education is often disrupted. According to UNESCO, girls are more likely to drop out of school during and after disasters, leading to long-term consequences for their economic opportunities and empowerment. (unesco.org,2023)
- ❁ **Decision-making and Representation:** Women are often underrepresented in decision-making processes related to climate change adaptation and mitigation. The Global Gender and Climate Alliance reports that only 12% of countries have achieved gender parity in their climate delegations. (gender-climate.org,2023)
- ❁ **Land Rights:** Women are less likely to own land, which poses a significant challenge when communities need to relocate due to rising sea levels or extreme weather events. Secure land rights are crucial for ensuring resilience and adaptation in the face of climate change.

2.1.2. Overview of the impact of disasters on women and girls focusing Health and Family Planning in Bangladesh

Gender and Disaster

Bangladesh is one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to natural disasters. It is located in a deltaic region, and is prone to cyclones, floods, and river erosion. These disasters have a disproportionate impact on women, who are often more vulnerable than men.

There are a number of reasons why women are more vulnerable to disasters in Bangladesh. First, women are more likely to be at home during a disaster, as they are often responsible for childcare and domestic work. This means that they are more likely to be injured or killed in a disaster. Second, women have less access to resources than men, such as shelter, food, and medical care. This makes it more difficult for them to recover from a disaster. Third, women are more likely to experience gender-based violence (GBV) in the aftermath of a disaster. GBV can include sexual violence, physical violence, and emotional abuse. (worldbank.org,2021)

Impact of Disaster on Women and Girls

Disasters can have a significant impact on women and girls, particularly in the context of health and Family Planning in Bangladesh. Here's an overview of some key areas where they may be affected:

- ❖ Women and girls in Bangladesh are often more vulnerable to the impact of disasters due to limited access to resources and information, as well as traditional gender roles and discrimination.
- ❖ Women and girls may face increased risk of gender-based violence during and after disasters, including sexual violence and trafficking.

- ❖ Disasters can lead to disruptions in menstrual cycles for women and girls, which can affect their overall health and wellbeing.
- ❖ Access to reproductive health services, including maternal care and contraception, can be limited during and after disasters, leading to negative health outcomes for women and girls.
- ❖ Disasters can lead to an increase in child marriage, as families may feel pressure to marry off their daughters to reduce the economic burden of caring for them.
- ❖ Women who are pregnant or breastfeeding may have difficulty accessing proper nutrition during and after disasters, which can have negative health outcomes for both the mother and child.
- ❖ Disasters can lead to the loss of livelihoods for women, who may be engaged in informal work that is particularly vulnerable to the impact of disasters.
- ❖ Women who are caregivers may have increased responsibilities during and after disasters, which can lead to physical and emotional exhaustion.
- ❖ Girls may be forced to drop out of school following a disaster, which can have long-term implications for their education and future opportunities.
- ❖ Women and girls may experience stigma and discrimination after a disaster, particularly if they have experienced gender-based violence or are pregnant and unmarried. (disasterphilanthropy.org)

2.1.3. Discussion on the intersectionality of gender, class, and other factors in Climate induced disaster situations in Bangladesh with example

Climate-induced disaster situations in Bangladesh provide a stark example of the intersectionality of gender, class, and other factors. Bangladesh is one of the most vulnerable countries to Climate Change, experiencing frequent cyclones, floods, and rising sea levels. These disasters exacerbate existing social inequalities and have differential impacts on different groups within the population.

- 🌿 Gender plays a significant role in climate-induced disasters in Bangladesh. Women often bear the brunt of the impact due to existing gender norms and inequalities. During floods or cyclones, women face greater risks due to limited mobility, lack of access to information and resources, and social norms that restrict their participation in decision-making processes. For instance, women are often responsible for water and food collection, and the scarcity of resources during disasters puts them at a higher risk of violence and exploitation.
- 🌿 Additionally, women's reproductive health is also affected. Disruptions in healthcare services, including access to reproductive health, can lead to increased maternal mortality rates and complications during childbirth. Women and girls may also face heightened vulnerability to human trafficking and other forms of exploitation following climate-induced disasters.

- ✿ Class is another crucial factor intersecting with gender in climate-induced disaster situations. The poorest communities in Bangladesh, who often reside in low-lying areas or slums, are disproportionately affected. They lack the resources to adapt to or recover from disasters, such as building resilient infrastructure or accessing early warning systems. Limited access to education and employment opportunities further exacerbates their vulnerability, trapping them in a cycle of poverty and environmental risk.
- ✿ For example, consider a cyclone hitting a coastal village in Bangladesh. The impact on different social groups within the community can vary significantly. Wealthier individuals may have resources to evacuate or rebuild their houses, while the poorer households lack such options. Women from low-income families may be more likely to be engaged in informal labor sectors, such as garment factories, which are particularly vulnerable to climate-related disruptions.
- ✿ Other factors like age, disability, and ethnicity also intersect with gender and class in climate-induced disasters. Older people, persons with disabilities, and minority groups face unique challenges in accessing timely information, evacuation processes, and relief services. Discrimination and marginalization further limit their ability to cope and recover from climate-related disasters.
- ✿ To address these intersecting challenges, comprehensive approaches are required. These should include gender-responsive disaster risk reduction strategies that empower women and promote their participation in decision-making processes. Efforts should be made to enhance the resilience of marginalized communities through inclusive policies, improved access to resources, and capacity-building initiatives. Furthermore, integrating Climate Change adaptation and disaster risk reduction into poverty reduction programs can help break the cycle of vulnerability and poverty.

In conclusion, the intersectionality of gender, class, and other factors in climate-induced disaster situations in Bangladesh highlights the need for holistic and inclusive approaches. By recognizing and addressing these intersecting vulnerabilities, it is possible to build more resilient and equitable communities that can withstand the impacts of Climate Change.

Session 2.2: Empowering Women and Girls

2.2.1. Overview of the women empowerment, aspects of women empowerment, empower women and girls in a leadership role during disaster management.

Understanding the Power

The word "power" can have many different meanings, depending on the context. In general, it refers to the ability to control or influence others. It can also refer to the ability to achieve something or to have an impact on the world.

There are many different types of power, including:

- ❖ **Political power:** This is the ability to influence the government or other political institutions.
- ❖ **Economic power:** This is the ability to control or influence the economy.
- ❖ **Social power:** This is the ability to influence social order or the way people interact with each other.
- ❖ **Personal power:** This is the ability to control or influence one's own life.

Power can be used for good or for evil. It can be used to help people or to harm them. It can be used to create a more just and equitable society or to maintain the status quo.

The way that power is used depends on the individual or group that holds it. Some people use power to help others, while others use it to benefit themselves or to harm others.

It is important to understand the different types of power and how they can be used. This understanding can help us to make informed decisions about how to use power in the world.

Here are some additional thoughts on understanding power:

- ❖ Power is not always easy to identify. It can be hidden or disguised.
- ❖ Power can be used to control or to liberate.
- ❖ Power can be used to build up or to tear down.
- ❖ Power can be used for good or for evil.

It is important to be aware of the different ways that power can be used. This awareness can help us to make informed decisions about how to use power in the world. (Duhigg, C. (2012). The Power of Habit)

What is Empowerment?

Here is a definition of empowerment, as found in the article "Empowerment: The Role of Social Work in Social Change" by Robert J. Adams:

Empowerment is the process of helping people gain control over their own lives. It is a process that fosters power in people for use in their own lives, their communities, and in their society, by acting on issues they define as important.

Empowerment can be seen as a multi-dimensional process that involves:

- ❖ **Individual empowerment:** This involves helping people to develop a sense of self-efficacy and self-confidence.
- ❖ **Collective empowerment:** This involves helping people to work together to achieve common goals.
- ❖ **Structural empowerment:** This involves changing the social, political, and economic systems that disempower people.

There are many different ways to promote empowerment. Some common methods include:

- ❖ **Education and training:** This can help people to develop the skills and knowledge they need to take control of their lives.
- ❖ **Support groups:** These can provide people with a safe space to share their experiences and to build relationships with others who are facing similar challenges.
- ❖ **Advocacy:** This involves working to change the systems that disempower people.

Empowerment is an important goal for social work because it can help to improve people's lives and to create a more just society.

Here are some sources that you can refer to for more information about empowerment:

- Adams, R. J. (1996). *Empowerment: The Role of Social Work in Social Change*. New York: Columbia University Press.
- Gutierrez, L. M., & Lewis, E. A. (2014). *Empowering People: A Handbook for Social Workers*. Boston: Pearson.
- Ife, J. (2016). *Community Development: Empowerment and Liberation*. London: Zed Books.

Women empowerment

Women empowerment refers to the process of enhancing the capacity and autonomy of women, enabling them to participate fully and equally in social, economic, and political spheres, and to make decisions that affect their lives. It involves challenging and overcoming gender-based discrimination, bias, and inequality. (unwomen.org)

Aspects of Women Empowerment:

Women's empowerment is a complex and multifaceted issue, but there are a number of key aspects that are essential to its success. These include:

- 🌸 **Economic empowerment:** This refers to women's ability to access and control resources, such as land, property, and financial services. Economic empowerment is essential for women to be able to support themselves and their families, and to participate fully in society.

- ✿ **Political empowerment:** This refers to women's ability to participate in decision-making at all levels, from the local to the national. Political empowerment is essential for women to be able to advocate for their own rights and interests, and to shape the policies that affect their lives.
- ✿ **Social empowerment:** This refers to women's ability to challenge gender stereotypes and to have a voice in their own communities. Social empowerment is essential for women to be able to live free from violence and discrimination, and to be able to reach their full potential.
- ✿ **Educational empowerment:** This refers to women's access to quality education, which is essential for their personal development and for their ability to participate fully in society. Educational empowerment is also essential for breaking the cycle of poverty and for improving the lives of future generations. (Jaideep Sheoran, Vol 7 Issue 4 [Year 2016])

These are just some of the key aspects of women's empowerment. It is important to remember that empowerment is a process, not an event. It takes time, effort, and resources to achieve true empowerment. However, the benefits of empowerment are immense, and it is a goal worth striving for.

Here are some additional aspects of women's empowerment that are worth considering:

- ✿ **Health:** Women's health is essential for their overall well-being and for their ability to participate fully in society. Access to quality healthcare, including reproductive healthcare, is essential for women's empowerment.
- ✿ **Safety:** Women's safety is essential for their ability to live free from violence and discrimination. Violence against women is a major barrier to empowerment, and it is important to address this issue in order to achieve true empowerment.
- ✿ **Leadership:** Women's leadership is essential for bringing about change. Women need to be able to take on leadership roles in all areas of society, from the home to the workplace to the government. (Jaideep Sheoran, Vol 7 Issue 4 [Year 2016])

Empowerment is a complex and multifaceted issue, but it is one that is essential for achieving gender equality and for building a more just and equitable world. By focusing on the key aspects of women's empowerment, we can make progress towards a world where all women have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Barriers to Women Empowerment:

Women's empowerment is a complex issue with many barriers, both individual and structural. In Bangladesh, some of the most common barriers to women's empowerment include:

- ✿ **Patriarchal attitudes:** Bangladesh is a patriarchal society, and this can create a number of barriers to women's empowerment. For example, women may be discouraged from

pursuing education or employment, and they may be subjected to violence and discrimination.

- ✿ **Lack of access to resources:** Women in Bangladesh often lack access to the resources they need to be empowered, such as education, land, and financial services. This can make it difficult for them to support themselves and their families, and to participate fully in society.
- ✿ **Discrimination:** Women in Bangladesh often face discrimination in all areas of life, including the workplace, the healthcare system, and the justice system. This discrimination can prevent women from reaching their full potential and from being empowered.
- ✿ **Violence against women:** Violence against women is a major barrier to empowerment in Bangladesh. It can have a devastating impact on women's physical and mental health, as well as their ability to participate fully in society.
- ✿ **Gender stereotypes:** Gender stereotypes can limit women's opportunities and prevent them from being empowered. These stereotypes can lead to women being seen as less capable than men, and they can also make it difficult for women to break into male-dominated fields.

(USMAN, FATIMA O.,2014)

These are just some of the most common barriers to women's empowerment in Bangladesh. It is important to remember that these barriers are not insurmountable. With effort and commitment, we can overcome these barriers and create a world where all women in Bangladesh have the opportunity to be empowered.

Key Strategies to Empower Women?

Strategies to empower women involve a range of interventions and actions aimed at promoting their rights, opportunities, and agency. Here are some strategies that contribute to women's empowerment:

- ✿ **Education and Skill Development:** Ensure equal access to quality education and skill-building programs for girls and women. This includes promoting literacy, vocational training, and STEM education to expand their knowledge and capabilities.
- ✿ **Economic Empowerment:** Promote women's economic participation by providing access to credit, financial services, and entrepreneurship training. Encourage women's employment, equal pay, and support for women-owned businesses.
- ✿ **Health and Reproductive Rights:** Ensure women's access to comprehensive healthcare services, including sexual and reproductive health, Family Planning , and maternal healthcare. Promote awareness, education, and rights related to reproductive health and combat harmful practices.

- ✿ **Political Participation and Leadership:** Encourage and support women's participation in politics, decision-making bodies, and leadership roles. Advocate for gender-balanced representation, electoral reforms, and inclusive governance structures.
- ✿ **Legal Reforms and Gender-responsive Policies:** Advocate for gender-responsive laws and policies that protect women's rights, address gender-based discrimination, and promote gender equality. Strengthen implementation mechanisms and access to justice for women.
- ✿ **Social and Cultural Change:** Challenge gender norms, stereotypes, and discriminatory practices through awareness campaigns, community dialogues, and media engagement. Promote gender equality in social, cultural, and familial contexts.
- ✿ **Strengthening Support Services:** Establish and strengthen support services for women, including shelters, counseling, legal aid, and healthcare facilities. Enhance the response to gender-based violence and ensure survivor-centered approaches.
- ✿ **Capacity Building and Leadership Development:** Provide training, mentoring, and leadership development programs to enhance women's skills, confidence, and decision-making abilities. Build their capacities to engage in various spheres of life.
- ✿ **Collaboration and Partnerships:** Foster partnerships among governments, civil society organizations, academia, and the private sector to promote women's empowerment. Collaborate with international agencies and organizations to share best practices and resources.
- ✿ **Data Collection and Research:** Collect gender-disaggregated data and conduct research to inform evidence-based policies and programs. Generate knowledge on women's empowerment issues and identify areas for intervention and improvement.
(Banerjee, Dr Ranjana, 2011)

It's important to implement these strategies with a context-specific approach and consider the intersecting factors such as class, caste, ethnicity, disability, and age that shape women's experiences and empowerment.

2.2.2. Why female leadership is crucial to tackling Climate Change and Climate induced Disaster in Bangladesh Perspective

Female leadership is crucial to tackling Climate Change and climate-induced disasters in Bangladesh for the following reasons:

- ✿ **Representation and Participation:** Women constitute a significant portion of the affected population in climate-induced disasters. Their inclusion in leadership positions ensures that their experiences, needs, and perspectives are adequately represented and considered in decision-making processes. Women leaders can articulate the challenges faced by women and advocate for gender-responsive policies and strategies in Climate Change adaptation and disaster management.

- 🌸 **Knowledge and Skills:** Women possess valuable knowledge and skills that can contribute to Climate Change mitigation and adaptation efforts. In Bangladesh, women often have extensive knowledge about local ecosystems, traditional agricultural practices, and natural resource management. Their insights can inform sustainable and context-specific solutions, such as promoting climate-resilient farming techniques or preserving biodiversity.
- 🌸 **Community Engagement and Resilience:** Women are often at the forefront of community resilience-building initiatives. They have strong social networks and play vital roles in community organizations. Female leaders can effectively engage and mobilize communities, particularly women, to participate in Climate Change adaptation and disaster preparedness activities. This involvement strengthens community resilience and enables the implementation of localized and effective solutions.
- 🌸 **Gender-Responsive Approaches:** Climate Change and disasters affect men and women differently due to existing gender inequalities and social norms. Female leadership can ensure that gender-specific needs and vulnerabilities are adequately addressed in Climate Change policies, disaster risk reduction strategies, and post-disaster recovery plans. This includes measures such as providing access to safe water and sanitation facilities, addressing gender-based violence risks, and supporting women's livelihoods.
- 🌸 **Empowerment and Social Transformation:** Women's leadership in Climate Change and disaster management can lead to empowerment and social transformation. By breaking down gender stereotypes and barriers, female leaders challenge traditional gender roles and norms. This process can result in increased opportunities for women's education, employment, and political participation, contributing to broader gender equality and social justice.
- 🌸 **International Commitments and Global Agenda:** Bangladesh is a signatory to international agreements and commitments, such as the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, which emphasize the importance of gender equality and women's empowerment in Climate Change and disaster resilience efforts. Female leadership aligns with these global agendas and helps fulfill national and international commitments.

(climatechampions.unfccc.int)

In conclusion, female leadership in Bangladesh is crucial for effectively addressing Climate Change and climate-induced disasters. Women's representation and participation, their knowledge and skills, community engagement, gender-responsive approaches, empowerment, and alignment with global agendas all contribute to more inclusive, sustainable, and effective strategies for tackling climate challenges and building resilience in Bangladesh.

2.2.3. Overview of the key strategies to empower women and girls in climate induced disaster situations, including access to education, economic opportunities, and leadership roles.

Overview of the key strategies to empower women and girls in disaster situations, including access to education, economic opportunities, and leadership roles in Bangladesh Perspective:

- ✿ **Education:** Ensuring access to education and promoting girls' education, especially during and after a disaster. This includes ensuring access to safe learning spaces and addressing the barriers to education such as lack of transportation and materials.
- ✿ **Economic opportunities:** Providing economic opportunities for women through skills training, job creation, and entrepreneurship programs. This can help women become more financially independent and reduce their vulnerability to disasters.
- ✿ **Leadership roles:** Promoting women's leadership roles in disaster response and recovery efforts, as well as in decision-making processes at all levels. This includes empowering women to actively participate in community meetings and decision-making processes.
- ✿ **Protection and safety:** Providing protection and safety to women and girls, especially those who are vulnerable to gender-based violence. This includes establishing safe spaces and providing psychosocial support services.
- ✿ **Health and hygiene:** Providing access to reproductive health services and ensuring access to clean water and sanitation facilities, which is critical during disaster situations.
- ✿ **Disaster preparedness:** Ensuring women's participation in disaster preparedness and response efforts and including their needs and perspectives in disaster Planning .
- ✿ **Addressing cultural norms and beliefs:** Addressing harmful cultural norms and beliefs that perpetuate gender inequality, including those related to women's roles and responsibilities during disasters.
- ✿ **Advocacy and awareness-raising:** Raising awareness about the impact of disasters on women and girls and advocating for gender-responsive policies and programs.
- ✿ **Engaging men and boys:** Engaging men and boys as allies in promoting gender equality and preventing gender-based violence.
- ✿ **Collaboration and partnerships:** Building collaborations and partnerships with government agencies, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders to promote gender equality in disaster situations.

2.2.4. Importance of empowering women and girls for CCA and DRR in Bangladesh?

Empowering women and girls is of paramount importance for effective Climate Change adaptation (CCA) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) in Bangladesh. Here are some key reasons why their empowerment is crucial:

- ✿ **Knowledge and Expertise:** Women and girls possess unique knowledge and experiences related to their communities and natural resource management. Their local knowledge, passed down through generations, can provide valuable insights into climate patterns,

ecological systems, and disaster vulnerabilities. By empowering them, their expertise can be harnessed in decision-making processes and strategies for CCA and DRR.

- ✿ **Resilience Building:** Women and girls are often at the forefront of coping with the impacts of disasters and Climate Change. Empowering them enhances their resilience and adaptive capacity to withstand and recover from such events. Their active involvement in Planning, preparedness, and response efforts helps create more robust and sustainable community resilience.
- ✿ **Community Leadership:** Women play critical roles within their communities as leaders, caretakers, and agents of change. By empowering women and girls, their leadership potential can be fully realized, enabling them to actively participate in CCA and DRR initiatives. Their engagement fosters inclusive decision-making processes, resulting in more comprehensive and context-specific solutions.
- ✿ **Addressing Gender Inequalities:** Women and girls often face gender-specific vulnerabilities and inequalities that exacerbate the impacts of disasters and Climate Change. Empowerment initiatives aim to address these disparities, including unequal access to resources, decision-making power, and economic opportunities. By promoting gender equality, CCA and DRR efforts become more inclusive, equitable, and effective.
- ✿ **Sustainable Development:** Empowering women and girls contributes to the broader goals of sustainable development. When women are empowered, they have increased access to education, healthcare, and economic resources. This enhances their ability to adapt to and mitigate Climate Change impacts, leading to improved overall well-being for themselves, their families, and their communities.
- ✿ **Knowledge Transmission and Capacity Building:** Empowering women and girls ensures the transfer of knowledge and skills from one generation to the next. By providing education and training opportunities, they become better equipped to understand and respond to Climate Change and disaster risks. This knowledge transmission contributes to building long-term resilience and sustainability.

In summary, empowering women and girls in CCA and DRR efforts in Bangladesh is essential for leveraging their knowledge, enhancing community resilience, addressing gender inequalities, promoting sustainable development, and ensuring more inclusive and effective strategies for tackling Climate Change and disaster risks.

Session 2.3: Stories on gender balance/equity in society.

2.3.1. Story 1- Title: Empowering Women's Voices: Ensuring Participation in Decision-Making in Disaster preparedness.

Once upon a time, in a small village nestled in the coastal region of Bangladesh, a group of women came together with a shared vision. They recognized that their community was highly vulnerable to climate-induced disasters, and they wanted to ensure that their voices were heard in the decision-making processes related to disaster preparedness.

These women had witnessed the devastating impacts of cyclones and floods firsthand. They had seen how their community struggled to recover, especially the women and girls who faced unique challenges during and after disasters. Determined to bring about change, they formed a collective called "Shakti," meaning "strength" in their local language.

Shakti was not just a group of women; it was a force that aimed to empower women and amplify their voices. They knew that by actively participating in decision-making, they could contribute to more effective disaster preparedness and response strategies that would prioritize the needs and capacities of all community members, particularly women and girls.

Their first step was to create awareness and build alliances. Shakti members organized community meetings and engaged in discussions with other local groups, including men's organizations and community leaders. They shared their experiences and highlighted the importance of women's involvement in disaster preparedness, stressing that women possess valuable knowledge and insights that are often overlooked.

As their message spread, Shakti caught the attention of a local non-governmental organization working on disaster resilience. Recognizing the significance of their efforts, the organization partnered with Shakti to facilitate their participation in decision-making forums. Together, they organized workshops and training sessions to equip the women with the skills and knowledge needed to actively engage in discussions on disaster risk reduction and preparedness.

The women of Shakti learned about disaster management principles, risk assessment techniques, and the importance of gender-responsive approaches. They also developed leadership and advocacy skills to effectively communicate their ideas and concerns to decision-makers at various levels.

Empowered with newfound knowledge and confidence, the women of Shakti started attending community meetings, engaging with local authorities, and participating in district-level forums on disaster preparedness. They shared their perspectives and proposed practical solutions that considered the unique needs and vulnerabilities of women, such as establishing safe spaces for women during emergencies, ensuring access to healthcare facilities, and promoting livelihood opportunities for women in post-disaster recovery.

Their active involvement made a remarkable impact. Decision-makers began to recognize the value of including women's voices in disaster preparedness Planning . Shakti's members were invited to contribute to the development of community-based early warning systems, evacuation plans, and disaster response protocols. Their inputs were integrated into policies and guidelines, ensuring that gender considerations were mainstreamed in all aspects of disaster preparedness.

Over time, the women of Shakti became role models in their community. Other women gained inspiration from their courage and determination. The movement grew, and more women joined Shakti, further strengthening their collective voice.

As cyclone season approached, the community was more prepared than ever before. The early warning systems were more inclusive, taking into account the specific needs of women and girls. Evacuation centers were designed with privacy and dignity in mind. And the women of Shakti continued to play an active role in supporting their community during and after disasters, ensuring that no one was left behind.

Their efforts did not go unnoticed. The government recognized the importance of women's participation in decision-making and embraced Shakti as a valuable partner. They allocated resources to further support women's empowerment initiatives in disaster resilience and expanded the movement to other vulnerable regions.

The story of Shakti serves as a powerful reminder of the transformative potential of women's voices. Through their determination, advocacy, and collective action, they not only empowered themselves but also paved the way for a more inclusive and resilient future for their community and beyond. Their story inspired countless others, becoming a beacon of hope and a testament to the power of women's participation in disaster preparedness.

Brainstorming Questions:

1. How does climate change disproportionately affect women in vulnerable communities, and what are the specific challenges they face during and after disasters?
2. What are the barriers that prevent women from participating in decision-making processes related to disaster preparedness, and how can these barriers be overcome?
3. How can gender-responsive approaches to disaster management enhance the overall effectiveness and inclusivity of disaster preparedness strategies?

2.3.2. Story 2: Title: "Breaking Barriers: A Heroine of Health in the Face of Disaster"

In a remote village nestled amidst lush greenery in Bangladesh, lived a courageous woman named Fatima. Fatima was not an ordinary villager; she was a dedicated community health service provider, committed to improving Family Planning and maternal health care in her village. She understood the importance of empowering women and ensuring their access to quality healthcare, even in the face of climate-induced disasters.

Fatima knew that her village was vulnerable to frequent floods, cyclones, and extreme weather events. These disasters often disrupted essential services, including healthcare facilities. However, she refused to let these challenges deter her from her mission. She believed that no woman should suffer the consequences of inadequate healthcare, especially during emergencies.

When disaster struck, Fatima sprang into action. She rallied her fellow health workers and set up temporary health clinics in safe locations, away from flood-prone areas. Despite facing societal taboos and restrictions that limited women's mobility and access to healthcare, Fatima was determined to reach out to women and provide them with the services they desperately needed.

She braved the elements, venturing through flooded roads and muddy pathways, going from door to door, to educate women about Family Planning, safe motherhood practices, and the importance of seeking medical assistance during pregnancy and childbirth. She dispelled myths and misconceptions, patiently answering questions and addressing concerns, all while earning the trust and respect of the women in her community.

Fatima also ensured that the health clinics she established were equipped with essential supplies, including contraceptives, prenatal vitamins, and emergency obstetric care kits. She trained local volunteers to assist in providing basic healthcare services and encouraged women to become active participants in their own well-being.

However, her work did not come without challenges. Fatima faced resistance from conservative members of the community who viewed her efforts as a violation of social norms and traditional beliefs. Some even accused her of promoting "western" ideals and practices. Undeterred, she patiently engaged in dialogues, highlighting the importance of women's health and rights, and demonstrating the positive impact her services had on the lives of mothers and children.

Over time, Fatima's efforts began to bear fruit. Women in the village started seeking her advice and utilizing the health clinics regularly. The number of women accessing Family Planning services increased, leading to a decline in unintended pregnancies and maternal mortality rates. The community began to recognize the vital role Fatima played in safeguarding the health and well-being of their mothers and children, even during climate-induced disasters.

Her resilience and dedication did not go unnoticed. Fatima's work caught the attention of a local non-governmental organization that recognized the need to support her efforts. They provided additional resources, training, and networking opportunities, empowering Fatima to expand her

reach to neighboring villages and share her knowledge and experiences with other health workers.

Fatima's journey was a testament to the transformative power of one woman's determination to break barriers and prioritize the health of her community, even in the face of adversity. She had not only challenged societal taboos and norms but had become an inspiration for future generations of health service providers, empowering them to work fearlessly for the well-being of women, families, and communities.

Fatima's story serves as a reminder that even in the most remote and challenging settings, individuals can make a profound difference through their commitment to breaking down barriers and providing essential services. Her dedication to ensuring access to Family Planning and maternal health care in climate-induced disaster situations will be remembered as a beacon of hope and resilience in the hearts of those she served.

Brainstorming Question:

1. How did Fatima overcome societal taboos and conservative views to provide essential healthcare services to women during climate-induced disasters?
2. What specific strategies did Fatima employ to raise awareness about Family Planning and safe motherhood practices in her village, and how did these efforts lead to positive health outcomes for women and children?
3. In what ways did the support and resources from the local non-governmental organization contribute to the expansion of Fatima's work and its impact on neighboring villages, and what lessons can be learned from her experience to empower other health service providers in similar contexts?

2.3.3. Story-3: Title- "Gender Sensitive Disaster Response: A Tale of Woman Empowerment in the Face of Disaster"

In a small village nestled along the banks of a river, life was forever changed when a devastating flood and riverbank erosion struck, leaving the community displaced and seeking shelter. With homes destroyed, people found solace in a nearby school that had been designated as a temporary shelter.

Inside the school-cum-shelter, the atmosphere was filled with uncertainty and anxiety. Among the displaced were two pregnant women, Fatima and Ayesha, who faced the daunting task of seeking proper care for their unborn children in the midst of chaos. Additionally, there were many adolescent girls who, for the first time, were experiencing menstruation. They grappled with the lack of proper sanitary facilities and support.

The shelter was ill-equipped, lacking even the most basic hygienic toilet facilities. This dire situation put the health and well-being of the pregnant women and adolescent girls at risk. They felt the urgency to voice their concerns and seek assistance to address their unique needs.

As fate would have it, during this challenging time, a dedicated and compassionate Woman UP member of the Union Parishad (UP) visited the shelter. She listened attentively as the women and girls courageously shared their struggles with pregnancy care and menstrual hygiene. The UP member recognized the gravity of the situation and understood the urgent need for support.

With a sense of purpose, the UP member took it upon herself to advocate for the displaced women and girls. She initiated discussions with the Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO), the Upazila Health and Family Planning Officer (UHFP), and the UP Chairman. She conveyed the urgent need for intervention, highlighting the importance of gender-sensitive disaster management.

Moved by the plight of the pregnant women and adolescent girls, the UNO swiftly arranged for additional food supplies to ensure their nutrition needs were met. The UHFP, understanding the criticality of the situation, arranged for necessary healthcare services, including prenatal care for the pregnant women and access to sanitary pads for the adolescent girls.

Meanwhile, the Upazila Women Affairs Officer stepped in to provide guidance and support. She recognized the importance of menstrual hygiene for the adolescent girls and ensured the distribution of sanitary pads, coupled with comprehensive information on menstrual health and hygiene practices.

With each step, the collective efforts of the UP member, the UNO, the UHFP, and the Upazila Women Affairs Officer established a gender-sensitive disaster management example. The pregnant women received the care they desperately needed, ensuring healthier pregnancies and safe deliveries. The adolescent girls were no longer burdened by the lack of sanitary facilities, allowing them to manage their menstruation with dignity and comfort.

Through their collaboration and commitment, the community witnessed the power of empathy, compassion, and a gender-responsive approach to disaster management. The voices of the

pregnant women and adolescent girls were heard, and their needs were addressed with urgency and care.

Brainstorming Questions:

1. How did the dedicated Woman UP member of the Union Parishad play a crucial role in advocating for the unique needs of the pregnant women and adolescent girls in the temporary shelter during the flood and riverbank erosion crisis?
2. What specific actions were taken by the Upazila Nirbahi Officer, the Upazila Health and Family Planning Officer, and the Upazila Women Affairs Officer to address the urgent needs of the displaced pregnant women and adolescent girls, ensuring their health and well-being were prioritized?
3. How did the gender-sensitive disaster management approach in this scenario lead to positive outcomes for the pregnant women and adolescent girls, and what lessons can be learned from this experience to ensure more effective and inclusive disaster response strategies in the future?

Session 2.4 Promoting Gender Equality in Climate Induced Disaster Management

2.4.1. Introduction to Gender Equality and Climate-Induced Disasters

Gender equality and climate-induced disasters are two interconnected issues that require attention and action in today's world. Gender equality refers to the equal rights, opportunities, and treatment of individuals regardless of their gender. It emphasizes the need to address and eliminate gender-based discrimination and promote gender equity in various spheres of life, including education, employment, politics, and social interactions.

Climate-induced disasters, on the other hand, are environmental events or phenomena resulting from Climate Change that have severe impacts on human populations and ecosystems. These disasters include hurricanes, floods, droughts, wildfires, and rising sea levels, among others. Climate Change exacerbates the frequency and intensity of such events, posing significant challenges to communities worldwide.

The relationship between gender equality and climate-induced disasters is multifaceted. Women and men often experience and respond to disasters differently due to existing gender norms, roles, and power dynamics within societies. These differences influence their vulnerability, resilience, and capacity to adapt and recover from climate-related events.

In many parts of the world, women are disproportionately affected by climate-induced disasters. They may face higher risks and suffer more severe consequences due to social, economic, and cultural factors. For instance, in some regions, women are responsible for securing water, food, and fuel for their households, and when disasters strike, these tasks become more challenging. Additionally, cultural norms and discriminatory practices may limit women's access to resources, decision-making processes, and disaster preparedness measures, further exacerbating their vulnerability.

Conversely, women also play critical roles in Climate Change mitigation, adaptation, and disaster risk reduction. They often possess valuable knowledge, skills, and community networks that can contribute to effective disaster management strategies. Moreover, empowering women and promoting gender equality can enhance overall resilience and sustainable development efforts. When women have equal access to education, healthcare, resources, and decision-making, they can contribute more effectively to Climate Change mitigation and adaptation initiatives.

To address the intersection of gender equality and climate-induced disasters, it is crucial to adopt gender-responsive approaches in disaster management and Climate Change policies. This includes integrating gender analysis into risk assessments, ensuring women's meaningful participation in decision-making processes, and providing targeted support and resources to address gender-specific vulnerabilities. Furthermore, empowering women and girls through education, economic opportunities, and the elimination of discriminatory practices can enhance their resilience and enable them to actively contribute to climate action.

Overall, recognizing and addressing the gender dimensions of climate-induced disasters is essential for achieving sustainable development, reducing vulnerabilities, and building more inclusive and resilient societies. By promoting gender equality, we can better understand and respond to the diverse needs and capacities of individuals and communities in the face of Climate Change and its associated challenges.

Gender analysis and gender equity are essential in climate-induced disaster management for several reasons:

2.4.2. Why Gender Analysis and gender equity is essential in Climate-Induced Disaster Management?

Gender analysis and gender equity are essential in climate-induced disaster management for several reasons:




- ✿ **Identifying gender-specific vulnerabilities and capacities:** Gender analysis helps to uncover how climate-induced disasters affect women, men, girls, and boys differently due to existing gender norms, roles, and power dynamics. It allows for a deeper understanding of the unique challenges and risks faced by different genders in disaster-prone areas. By conducting gender analysis, policymakers and practitioners can identify specific vulnerabilities and capacities that need to be addressed to ensure an inclusive and effective disaster management response.
- ✿ **Understanding the role of gender norms and stereotypes:** Gender norms and stereotypes influence behavior, decision-making, and access to resources during disaster response and recovery. They may restrict women's mobility, limit their participation in decision-making processes, and reinforce traditional roles that hinder their ability to cope with and recover from disasters. Understanding these dynamics through gender analysis helps to challenge and transform harmful gender norms, ensuring that disaster management strategies and interventions consider the diverse needs and capabilities of all genders.
- ✿ **Utilizing gender-disaggregated data:** Gender-disaggregated data provides a comprehensive picture of how climate-induced disasters impact different genders. It helps to identify disparities, gaps, and inequalities in access to resources, services, and decision-making power. By collecting and analyzing data separately for men, women, boys, and girls, policymakers can make informed decisions and develop targeted interventions that address the specific needs and challenges faced by each group. Gender-disaggregated data also enables the evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of disaster management initiatives on different genders, allowing for evidence-based improvements.
- ✿ **Promoting gender equity and social inclusion:** Integrating gender equity into disaster management ensures that all individuals, regardless of their gender, have equal opportunities, rights, and access to resources before, during, and after disasters. It aims

to dismantle gender-based discrimination and promote the active participation and empowerment of women and girls in decision-making processes, resource allocation, and leadership roles. Gender equity also extends to recognizing and addressing the needs and experiences of marginalized and vulnerable groups within different genders, such as indigenous women, elderly women, or transgender individuals.

By incorporating gender analysis, promoting gender equity, and utilizing gender-disaggregated data, disaster management efforts become more effective, inclusive, and responsive to the diverse needs and capacities of all individuals affected by climate-induced disasters. It ensures that no one is left behind, and that disaster management strategies are designed to address the specific vulnerabilities and strengths of different genders, ultimately leading to more resilient and sustainable communities.

2.4.3. Gender-Sensitive Early Warning Systems for Effective Climate Induced Disaster Management

In Bangladesh, designing gender-sensitive early warning systems is crucial for effective climate-induced disaster management. By considering the specific needs and capacities of different genders, these systems can help save lives, reduce vulnerabilities, and improve response and recovery efforts. Here are some key elements to consider in creating gender-sensitive early warning systems:

-  **Designing early warning systems to address different needs and capacities:** Recognizing that men, women, boys, and girls have different vulnerabilities and capacities during disasters is essential. The early warning systems should take into account factors such as access to information, mobility, and decision-making power. For example, women may face barriers to receiving and understanding warning messages due to cultural norms or limited access to technology. Designing systems that consider these differences can ensure that warning messages are accessible and actionable for all genders.
-  **Ensuring access to timely and accurate information for all genders:** Access to timely and accurate information is critical for effective disaster response. Early warning systems should consider the diverse communication preferences and channels used by different genders. For instance, women in rural areas may rely more on community networks or local radio stations for information. Ensuring that warning messages are disseminated through multiple channels and in different languages can increase accessibility and reach.
-  **Enhancing the effectiveness of early warning systems through community engagement:** Engaging with local communities, including women and marginalized groups, is essential for developing effective early warning systems. Community members possess valuable knowledge about local conditions, hazards, and response strategies. Incorporating their perspectives and involving them in decision-making processes can enhance the accuracy and relevance of warning systems. Moreover, involving women in community-based

disaster management committees and training programs can strengthen their capacity to respond to emergencies effectively.

- ✿ **Addressing gender-specific barriers and vulnerabilities:** Gender-sensitive early warning systems should also address gender-specific barriers and vulnerabilities. For instance, ensuring that evacuation centers have separate facilities for women and men, providing access to sanitary products, and considering the specific needs of pregnant women and lactating mothers are important considerations. Moreover, involving women in leadership positions within disaster management organizations can facilitate gender-responsive decision-making and Planning .
- ✿ **Building capacity and awareness:** Promoting gender equality and disaster preparedness go hand in hand. Providing training and awareness programs on disaster management and early warning systems, particularly targeting women and girls, can enhance their knowledge and capacity to respond effectively. Additionally, engaging with local schools and educational institutions to incorporate disaster management and gender-sensitive approaches into the curriculum can foster a culture of preparedness from an early age.

By incorporating these elements into the design and implementation of early warning systems, Bangladesh can improve the effectiveness of climate-induced disaster management. Gender-sensitive early warning systems help ensure that no one is left behind and that the specific needs and capacities of different genders are considered, resulting in more inclusive, responsive, and resilient communities.

2.4.4. Discuss Gender-Responsive Disaster Preparedness and Response for Climate-Induced Disaster in Bangladesh Perspective

Gender-responsive disaster preparedness and response in the health and Family Planning sector is crucial in Bangladesh to address the specific needs and vulnerabilities of different genders during climate-induced disasters. By considering gender dynamics and promoting inclusivity, the sector can enhance its capacity to protect and support the health and well-being of individuals and communities. Let's discuss gender-responsive preparedness and response separately:

Gender-Responsive Disaster Preparedness in the Health and Family Planning Sector:

- ✿ **Assessing gender-specific risks and vulnerabilities:** Conducting gender analysis to understand the differential impacts of disasters on men, women, boys, and girls is essential. This analysis helps identify specific health risks and vulnerabilities associated with gender, such as reproductive health needs, access to healthcare facilities, or gender-based violence. It informs the development of targeted preparedness strategies.
- ✿ **Inclusive disaster Planning and coordination:** Engaging with diverse stakeholders, including women's organizations, community groups, and gender equality advocates, is vital in disaster Planning and coordination. Ensuring the representation of women in decision-making processes and integrating their perspectives helps identify and address

gender-specific needs and concerns. It also contributes to the development of inclusive and gender-responsive disaster response plans.

- ✿ **Strengthening healthcare systems and services:** Gender-responsive preparedness involves strengthening healthcare systems and services to address the unique health needs of different genders. This includes ensuring the availability of essential medications, reproductive health services, and access to safe and dignified healthcare facilities during and after disasters. It also involves training healthcare providers to be sensitive to gender issues and provide inclusive care.

Gender-Responsive Disaster Response in the Health and Family Planning Sector:

- ✿ **Ensuring access to healthcare services:** During disaster response, ensuring equal access to healthcare services for all genders is crucial. This includes setting up temporary health facilities in affected areas and providing services that address reproductive health needs, maternal and child health, and mental health support. Efforts should be made to reach vulnerable populations, such as pregnant women, lactating mothers, or individuals with disabilities, who may face additional barriers.
- ✿ **Addressing gender-based violence:** Disasters can exacerbate gender-based violence, including domestic violence and sexual assault. Responding to these issues requires providing safe spaces, counseling, and support services for survivors. It is essential to establish mechanisms for reporting and addressing gender-based violence cases promptly and sensitively, ensuring survivors' safety and well-being.
- ✿ **Promoting gender-equitable information and communication:** Effective communication during disaster response is crucial. Information should be provided in a gender-responsive manner, considering the diverse information needs and communication preferences of different genders. Outreach efforts should be inclusive, ensuring that women and marginalized groups have access to accurate and timely information on health services, safety measures, and available resources.
- ✿ **Involving women in decision-making and leadership roles:** Gender-responsive disaster response involves promoting women's active participation in decision-making and leadership roles. Engaging women in relief and recovery efforts helps ensure that their voices are heard, their needs are addressed, and their expertise is utilized. It also fosters more inclusive and effective decision-making processes.

By incorporating gender-responsive approaches in disaster preparedness and response within the health and Family Planning sector, Bangladesh can better protect the health and well-being of individuals and communities during climate-induced disasters. Such efforts contribute to building resilient and equitable systems that prioritize the specific needs and vulnerabilities of different genders, promoting overall community well-being.

2.4.5. Advocacy and Partnerships for Gender Equality in Climate Change Resilience in Bangladesh Perspective

Advocacy and partnerships are crucial for promoting gender equality in Climate Change resilience efforts in Bangladesh. By engaging in advocacy and forming partnerships, various stakeholders can work together to raise awareness, influence policies, and implement gender-responsive strategies to enhance resilience and empower women. Here are some key aspects of advocacy and partnerships for gender equality in Climate Change resilience from a Bangladesh perspective:

- ✿ **Awareness and knowledge sharing:** Advocacy efforts should focus on raising awareness about the gender impacts of Climate Change and the importance of gender equality in resilience building. This includes sharing information about the specific vulnerabilities faced by women, girls, and marginalized groups, as well as highlighting their roles as agents of change. Knowledge sharing platforms, such as workshops, seminars, and public campaigns, can be used to disseminate information and promote dialogue among various stakeholders.
- ✿ **Policy advocacy and mainstreaming gender:** Advocacy plays a vital role in influencing policies and mainstreaming gender considerations in Climate Change resilience strategies. Advocacy efforts should aim to integrate gender equality principles into national and local policies related to Climate Change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable development. This can be achieved through policy research, advocacy campaigns, and engaging with policymakers to highlight the importance of gender-responsive approaches in building resilience.
- ✿ **Building partnerships:** Effective partnerships among government agencies, civil society organizations, women's groups, academia, and private sectors are essential for advancing gender equality in Climate Change resilience. Collaborative efforts can include joint advocacy campaigns, knowledge sharing, capacity building programs, and the development of gender-responsive projects and initiatives. These partnerships can leverage diverse expertise, resources, and networks to promote gender equality in resilience Planning , implementation, and monitoring.
- ✿ **Strengthening women's leadership and participation:** Advocacy efforts should prioritize the promotion of women's leadership and meaningful participation in Climate Change resilience initiatives. This can involve creating platforms for women's voices to be heard, supporting the capacity development of women leaders, and ensuring their inclusion in decision-making processes. Empowering women to actively engage in resilience-building efforts contributes to more effective and sustainable outcomes.
- ✿ **Data collection and research:** Advocacy efforts can focus on advocating for improved data collection and research on the gender dimensions of Climate Change resilience in Bangladesh. This includes promoting the collection of gender-disaggregated data to better understand the specific impacts, vulnerabilities, and capacities of different

genders. Research can provide evidence-based insights that support advocacy efforts and inform policy and programmatic interventions.

- ✿ **International collaboration and funding:** Advocacy efforts can also extend to international collaboration and engaging with donors and development partners. Advocating for increased funding for gender-responsive Climate Change resilience initiatives and leveraging international networks can help support and scale up efforts in Bangladesh. Collaboration with international organizations and sharing experiences with other countries can contribute to knowledge exchange and best practices in gender equality and climate resilience.

Overall, advocacy and partnerships for gender equality in Climate Change resilience in Bangladesh are vital for ensuring that women's rights, needs, and perspectives are integrated into resilience-building efforts. By working together, stakeholders can advocate for gender-responsive policies, programs, and funding, leading to more inclusive and effective strategies that address the intersecting challenges of Climate Change and gender inequality.

2.4.6. How to ensure gender equity in our society during emergency and disaster periods:

Here are some ways to ensure gender equity in our society during emergency and disaster periods:


- ✿ **Incorporate gender-responsive considerations into disaster risk reduction (DRR) and emergency preparedness Planning.** This means considering the different needs and vulnerabilities of women and men, girls and boys, and other marginalized groups. For example, women may need access to safe spaces and separate toilets in shelters, and they may be more likely to be victims of gender-based violence.
- ✿ **Train disaster response personnel on gender equality and the specific needs of women and girls.** This will help ensure that women and girls are not discriminated against in the aftermath of a disaster, and that they have access to the same resources and services as men.
- ✿ **Gather gender-disaggregated data on disasters.** This will help to identify the specific challenges that women and girls face in the aftermath of a disaster, and to track the progress of efforts to ensure gender equity.
- ✿ **Support women's leadership and participation in disaster risk reduction and emergency response.** Women are often excluded from decision-making in these areas, but they have a wealth of knowledge and experience that can be invaluable in responding to disasters.
- ✿ **Advocate for gender-sensitive policies and programs.** This includes ensuring that women have equal access to resources, services, and decision-making power.
- ✿ **Challenge gender stereotypes and harmful traditional practices.** These can often contribute to the vulnerability of women and girls in the aftermath of a disaster.

- ✿ **Build the resilience of women and girls.** This includes providing them with skills, knowledge, and resources so that they can better cope with the impacts of disasters.

2.4.7. How to ensure the gender issue in health and family service delivery during disaster?

Ensuring gender sensitivity in health and family service delivery at the local level during a disaster is crucial for promoting equity and addressing the specific needs and vulnerabilities of different genders. Here are some strategies to consider:

- ✿ **Incorporate gender perspectives in disaster planning:** Ensure that gender considerations are integrated into all stages of disaster planning, including risk assessment, preparedness, response, and recovery. This can involve conducting gender-disaggregated data collection and analysis to understand the specific needs and vulnerabilities of different genders in the community.
- ✿ **Build capacity and awareness:** Provide training and capacity-building programs to healthcare and family service providers at the local level, focusing on gender-sensitive approaches. This can include raising awareness about gender-based violence, reproductive health needs, and the importance of gender equality in service delivery during disasters.
- ✿ **Engage women and marginalized groups:** Actively involve women and marginalized groups in decision-making processes related to disaster Planning and response. Ensure their representation and meaningful participation in local disaster management committees, community organizations, and other relevant forums. This helps to amplify their voices, concerns, and priorities.
- ✿ **Design gender-responsive facilities and services:** Adapt healthcare and family services to be inclusive and responsive to the needs of different genders. This includes ensuring the availability of separate, safe, and accessible spaces for women and girls, addressing menstrual hygiene management, and providing gender-sensitive healthcare services.
- ✿ **Prevent gender-based violence:** Establish protocols and procedures to prevent and respond to gender-based violence during disasters. Train healthcare and service providers on identifying signs of abuse and providing appropriate support. Collaborate with local law enforcement agencies and organizations that specialize in addressing gender-based violence to ensure a coordinated response.
- ✿ **Promote gender-sensitive communication:** Develop and disseminate information and communication materials that are gender-sensitive, accessible, and available in multiple formats and languages. This helps to ensure that women, men, and other genders can understand and access relevant health and family services during and after a disaster.
- ✿ **Monitor and evaluate gender mainstreaming efforts:** Regularly assess and monitor the effectiveness of gender mainstreaming efforts in health and family service delivery during disasters. Collect feedback from community members, healthcare providers, and stakeholders to identify gaps and areas for improvement.

 **Here are some specific examples** of how to ensure gender equity in health and family service delivery during disaster:

In the aftermath of a disaster, women may be more likely to experience sexual and gender-based violence. It is important to have a plan in place to provide survivors with access to safe spaces, medical care, and psychological support.

Women may also be more likely to be responsible for caring for children and other family members in the aftermath of a disaster. It is important to ensure that they have access to the resources they need to do this, such as food, water, shelter, and childcare.

Women may also be more likely to be marginalized in disaster response efforts. It is important to ensure that they are represented in decision-making bodies and that their voices are heard.

Session 2.5: Conclusion and Action Plan

Recap of key insights and takeaways from the training Manual

2.5.1. Guidelines for How to prepare a Gender-Sensitive Disaster Preparedness Plan for the Health Sector and Family Planning Sector (Upazila Base).

Guideline for Preparing a Gender-Sensitive Disaster Preparedness Plan for the Health Sector and Family Planning Sector (Upazila Base):

Step-1: Conduct a Gender Analysis:

- Undertake a comprehensive gender analysis to identify the specific needs, vulnerabilities, and capacities of women and girls in the Upazila during disasters.
- Assess the gender-specific impact of previous disasters on health and family planning services to inform the planning process.

Step-2: Establish a Gender-Sensitive Task Force:

- Form a multidisciplinary task force comprising representatives from the health sector, family planning sector, women's groups, local government, and NGOs to lead the planning process.
- Ensure the inclusion of gender experts and women's rights advocates in the task force.

Step-3: Engage with Women and Girls:

- Conduct consultations and focus group discussions with women, girls, and women's organizations to understand their perspectives, priorities, and recommendations for disaster preparedness.
- Include adolescent girls, pregnant women, and marginalized women in the consultation process.

Step-4: Identify Gender-Specific Needs:

- Identify key gender-specific needs related to healthcare, family planning services, menstrual hygiene, reproductive health, and psychosocial support during disasters.
- Consider the needs of pregnant women, lactating mothers, and women with disabilities.

Step-5: Develop Gender-Sensitive Protocols:

- Develop protocols and guidelines for providing gender-sensitive healthcare services in emergency settings, including antenatal care, safe delivery, postnatal care, and family planning.
- Integrate menstrual hygiene management into the disaster preparedness plan.

Step-6: Design Inclusive Shelters and Facilities:

- Ensure that temporary shelters and health facilities are designed to be safe, private, and inclusive for women and girls.
- Provide separate spaces for pregnant women, nursing mothers, and women requiring privacy.

Step-7: Capacity Building:

- Conduct gender-sensitive training for healthcare providers, family planning workers, and emergency responders on gender dynamics, gender-responsive approaches, and addressing gender-based vulnerabilities.
- Sensitize staff on the importance of promoting women's leadership and participation in disaster preparedness and response.

Step-8: Promote Women's Leadership and Representation:

- Encourage the participation of women in disaster management committees, training programs, and decision-making forums.
- Promote women's leadership and representation in all stages of the disaster preparedness planning process.

Step-9: Develop Information and Communication Materials:

- Create gender-sensitive information materials on disaster preparedness, health, and family planning in local languages and formats accessible to all.
- Ensure that women and girls receive essential information on available services and support during emergencies.

Step-10: Coordinate with Stakeholders:

- Foster coordination and collaboration between the health sector, family planning sector, local government, NGOs, and other relevant stakeholders.
- Strengthen partnerships to enhance the gender-sensitive response to disasters.

Step-11: Monitoring and Evaluation:

- Establish gender-sensitive indicators to measure the effectiveness of the preparedness plan in addressing the specific needs of women and girls.
- Regularly assess and review the plan's implementation, making necessary adjustments based on feedback and outcomes.

Step-12: Budget and Resource Allocation:

- Allocate adequate resources and budget to support the implementation of gender-sensitive disaster preparedness measures.
- Advocate for financial support from government agencies and donor organizations.

Step-13: Review and Update:

- Periodically review and update the gender-sensitive disaster preparedness plan to reflect changing needs, emerging challenges, and lessons learned from previous disasters.

By following this guideline, the health sector and family planning sector can develop a robust gender-sensitive disaster preparedness plan that addresses the unique needs and vulnerabilities of women and girls in the Upazila, ensuring their health, well-being, and empowerment during emergencies.

12.5.2. Action Plan Title: Gender-Sensitive Disaster Preparedness Plan for the Health Sector (Upazila Base)

Objective:

To develop a comprehensive Gender-Sensitive Disaster Preparedness Plan for the health sector at the Upazila (sub-district) level, focusing on addressing gender-specific needs and vulnerabilities in public health, Family Planning , community-level service delivery, and immunization/vaccination during disasters.

Guidelines for Participants:

Understand the Context:

- ❖ Review existing disaster preparedness plans and identify gaps in addressing gender issues.
- ❖ Collect relevant data on public health, Family Planning , community-level service delivery, and immunization/vaccination in the Upazila, disaggregated by gender.
- ❖ Analyze the data to identify gender-specific risks and vulnerabilities.

Conduct Gender-Sensitive Risk Assessment:

- ❖ Identify possible risks and challenges associated with public health, Family Planning , community-level service delivery, and immunization/vaccination during disasters.
- ❖ Analyze the risks through a gender lens, considering the specific vulnerabilities of different genders.
- ❖ Document the identified risks for each sector in the action plan.

Set Gender-Sensitive Goals and Objectives:

- ❖ Based on the risk assessment, establish clear and measurable goals and objectives for each sector, addressing gender disparities and vulnerabilities.
- ❖ Ensure alignment with national and international gender equality frameworks.

Develop Gender-Sensitive Strategies and Interventions:

- ❖ Brainstorm actions and strategies to address the identified risks and achieve the established goals.
- ❖ Develop gender-responsive interventions for public health, Family Planning , community-level service delivery, and immunization/vaccination.
- ❖ Integrate actions that address reproductive health, menstrual hygiene management, and gender-based violence prevention.

Identify Responsible Persons:

- ❖ Assign individuals or departments responsible for implementing each action or strategy.
- ❖ Clearly define roles and responsibilities, ensuring accountability.

Determine Timelines:

- ❖ Establish realistic timelines for the implementation of each action or strategy.
- ❖ Consider the sequencing of activities and dependencies between sectors.

Address Sustainability Issues:

- ❖ Identify sustainability challenges and strategies for maintaining gender-sensitive initiatives beyond the training period.
- ❖ Explore opportunities for partnerships with local organizations and stakeholders.
- ❖ Advocate for continued funding and resource allocation.

Monitor and Evaluate Progress:

- ❖ Develop monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to track the implementation and effectiveness of the action plan.
- ❖ Regularly review progress against the set goals and objectives.
- ❖ Collect feedback from stakeholders and make necessary adjustments.

Review and Update the Plan:

- ❖ Conduct periodic reviews to ensure the plan remains responsive to changing contexts and emerging needs.
- ❖ Incorporate lessons learned and best practices to improve the effectiveness of the plan.
- ❖ Engage stakeholders in the review process for a collaborative approach.

Actions	Possible Risk to implement	Responsible Parties	Timeline	Resources Needed	Sustainability Issue
Public Health issue: Activity-1 Activity -2 Activity -3					
Family Planning Issue Activity-1 Activity -2 Activity -3					
Community level Service Delivery Issue Activity-1 Activity -2 Activity -3					
Immunization /Vaccination Activity-1 Activity -2 Activity -3					

Manual Three

Gender-Based Violence in Bangladesh Perspective



Source: dhakatribune.com

Section Three: Gender-Based Violence in Bangladesh Perspective

3.A. Introduction:

Gender-based violence is a significant social problem in Bangladesh, affecting women and girls from all socio-economic backgrounds. Violence against women has been recognized as a major barrier to achieving gender equality and is a violation of human rights. This training Manual aims to provide participants with an understanding of gender-based violence in the Bangladesh context, its causes and effects, and strategies to prevent and respond to it.

3.B. Learning Objectives:

Objective: To enhance participants' understanding of gender-based violence in disaster-affected communities and its impact on health and Family Planning.

3.C. Learning Objectives of this section:

After completing this section participants will be able to learn following issues-

- Understand the concept of gender-based violence (GBV) in the context of disaster-affected communities and its prevalence.
- Identify the various forms of GBV that women and girls may experience during and after disasters.
- Recognize the impact of GBV on the physical and mental health of survivors and its implications for family planning and reproductive health.
- Explore the intersecting factors that contribute to increased vulnerability to GBV in disaster settings.
- Discuss strategies and interventions to address GBV in disaster-affected communities and promote women's empowerment and access to quality healthcare and family planning services.

3.D. Possible Outcome:

After completing this section of the training following outcomes will be achieved-






- ❖ Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of gender-based violence (GBV) and its various manifestations in the context of Bangladesh.
- ❖ Assess and articulate the significant impact of GBV on individuals, families, and communities in Bangladesh.
- ❖ Analyze and identify the underlying root causes and contributing factors of GBV within Bangladeshi society.
- ❖ Acquire a thorough knowledge of the legal framework and policies in Bangladesh that are specifically designed to address GBV.





- ❖ Evaluate and describe the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders involved in the prevention and response to GBV in Bangladesh.
- ❖ Develop an understanding of effective strategies and interventions aimed at both preventing and responding to GBV within the specific context of Bangladesh.

3.E. Section Time:

This section will take 1 day (6 Hours) to complete.

3.F. Section Guideline:

	<p>TOTAL SECTION TIME One Day (6 Hour)</p>	
	<p>NUMBER OF SESSIONS Session 3.1: Definition and Forms of Gender-Based Violence Session 3.2: Recognize the impact of GBV on individuals, families, and communities in Bangladesh. Session 3.3: Root Causes and Risk Factors of Gender-Based Violence in Bangladesh Session 3.4: Gain knowledge of the legal framework and policies in Bangladesh related to addressing GBV. Session 3.5: Impacts of Gender-Based Violence on Survivors and their Families Session 3.6: Explore the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders in preventing and responding to GBV. Session 3.7: Learn about effective strategies and interventions to prevent and respond to GBV in Bangladesh. Session 3.8. Group Work Title: Identifying Gender-Based Violence in Disaster Periods and Suggesting Preventive and Mitigative Strategies</p>	
	<p>TRAINER NOTE Enhance participants' understanding of the different forms of gender-based violence that occur in disaster-affected communities, the impact of gender-based violence on health and Family Planning, the factors that contribute to gender-based violence, the role of different actors in addressing gender-based violence, and resources and tools that can be used to address gender-based violence.</p>	
	<p>SECTION OBJECTIVES To enhance participants' understanding of gender-based violence in disaster-affected communities and its impact on health and Family Planning.</p>	
	<p>METHODOLOGIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive Discussion • Case Studies • Expert Talks • Group Exercises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Materials • Peer Learning • Reflection and Discussion • Action Planning

	<p>MATERIALS NEEDED Projector and Screen Flipcharts or Whiteboard with Markers Laptop or Computer Handouts and Printed Training Materials Real-Life Case Studies and Research Papers</p>	<p>Name Tags and Badges Notepads and Pens for Participants Access to Online Resources and Research Databases</p>
	<p>ADVANCE PREPARATION Research and Gather Information Develop Training Materials Invite Expert Speakers Plan Group Exercises</p>	<p>Set Training Agenda Test Technical Equipment Prepare Reflection Questions Organize Logistics Send Pre-training Materials</p>
	<p>REFERENCE Unwomen.org,</p>	
	<p>FOR GROUP DISCUSSION / ACTION PLAN There are No Group discussion in this section. One action will be made by participants</p>	

3.G. Manual Outline:

SL	Subject Matter	Time
3.1.	<p>Session 3.1: Definition and Forms of Gender-Based Violence 3.1.0. Gender-based violence in Bangladesh up by 24% amid Covid-19 pandemic 3.1.1. Definition of gender-based violence 3.1.2. Forms of gender-based violence, including physical, sexual, psychological, and economic violence</p>	45 minutes
3.2.	<p>Session 3.2. Recognize the impact of GBV on individuals, families, and communities in Bangladesh. 3.2.1. Impact of GBV in Bangladesh</p>	45 minutes
3.3.	<p>Session 3.3: Root Causes and Risk Factors of Gender-Based Violence in Bangladesh 3.3.1. Root Causes behind the GBV in Bangladesh 3.3.2. Risk Factors of Gender-Based Violence in Bangladesh</p>	45 minutes
3.4.	<p>Session 3.4: Gain knowledge of the legal framework and policies in Bangladesh related to addressing GBV.</p>	45 minutes
3.5.	<p>Session 3.5: Impacts of Gender-Based Violence on Survivors and their Families</p>	40 minutes
3.6	<p>Session 3.6: Explore the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders in preventing and responding to GBV.</p>	40 minutes

3.7	Session 3.7: Learn about effective strategies and interventions to prevent and respond to GBV in Bangladesh.	40 minutes
3.8	Session 3.8 Identifying Gender-Based Violence in Disaster Periods and Suggesting Preventive and Mitigative Strategies	60 Minutes

Session 3.1: Definition and Forms of Gender-Based Violence



Source: vectorstock.com

3.1.0. Gender-based violence in Bangladesh

Gender-based violence has seen a rise in Bangladesh amid the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, revealed a Brac study adding that more than 25,607 complaints were registered by its Legal Aid Services in the first 10 months of 2020.



Source:gendermatters.i

The number of child marriages reported by Polli Shomaj – active in 54 out of 64 districts in the country and working to stop violence and help women understand their rights – in the first 10 months of 2020 grew by 68%, compared to the same period in 2019.



Source: pngegg.COM

Manusher Jonno Foundation published in June, 2020 found that in April, 1,672 women and 424 children out of a total of 4,249 women and 456 children who were among the respondents experienced abuse for the first time during the Covid-19 pandemic.



Manusher Jonno Foundation study found in 2020 that 97.4% of altogether women were victims of domestic violence.



Source: tribune.com

According to voicebd.org (online portal) Less than 1% conviction rate for rape in Bangladesh

3.1.1. Definition of gender-based violence

Gender-based violence (GBV) is a form of violence that is directed against a person based on their gender or perceived gender. It is rooted in unequal power relationships between men and women, and it can take many different forms, ranging from physical and sexual violence to psychological and economic abuse.

3.1.2. Forms of gender-based violence, including physical, sexual, psychological, and economic violence



Story: "Silent Whispers of Farzana"

In the rural outskirts of Bangladesh, a resilient young woman named Farzana lived in a close-knit community that relied heavily on the land and rivers for survival. Her aspirations of becoming a teacher and empowering others were overshadowed by the harsh realities that unfolded during disaster periods.

As the monsoon season arrived, bringing with it cyclones and floods, Farzana's village became a vulnerable place. The adverse conditions exposed hidden challenges, including the increased risks of gender-based violence.

Within the crowded shelters where families sought refuge, Farzana silently endured the agony of abuse from her partner, Rafiq. The heightened stress and displacement during the disaster intensified his anger, turning their once-loving home into a place of fear and suffering.

Amid the chaos and disruption, Farzana faced social isolation and ostracization. Rumors and whispers circulated throughout the community, unfairly blaming her for the violence she endured. The cultural norms and stigma surrounding such acts further deepened her sense of despair and made it harder for her to seek help.

Rafiq's cruelty extended beyond physical harm. He systematically undermined Farzana's self-worth, using emotional manipulation as a means of control. The trauma and instability of the disaster period provided him with an opportunity to exploit her vulnerability, eroding her confidence and leaving her feeling powerless.

The economic strain caused by the disaster exacerbated Farzana's situation. Rafiq controlled the limited resources available, leaving her financially dependent on him. The loss of livelihood opportunities during the crisis further entrenched her economic vulnerability, making it difficult for her to escape the cycle of violence.

In the midst of the disaster's aftermath, Farzana encountered the horrifying reality of sexual exploitation. The breakdown of social structures and the lack of protection created an environment in which perpetrators took advantage of vulnerable individuals like her. Farzana became a victim of sexual violence, leaving her traumatized and struggling to reclaim her sense of safety and dignity.

The violence within their home reached its peak when Rafiq's anger knew no bounds. In a fit of rage, he subjected Farzana to a brutal physical assault, causing her severe injuries. It was in that

moment of desperation and pain that Farzana found the strength to break free from the shackles of violence and seek a path towards healing.

With the support of a local organization dedicated to empowering survivors, Farzana found refuge in a safe shelter. There, she received comprehensive assistance, including counseling, legal aid, and skills training. Through this holistic support, Farzana was able to rebuild her life, reclaim her independence, and cultivate a newfound sense of hope.

Farzana's story sheds light on the urgent need for a coordinated response to gender-based violence during disaster periods in Bangladesh. It emphasizes the importance of raising awareness, strengthening community support systems, and providing survivors with the resources and services they need to break free from violence.

By prioritizing the safety and well-being of individuals like Farzana, we can foster a society that stands against all forms of violence and ensures that no one is left voiceless or suffering in the shadows. Together, we can work towards a future where disasters do not perpetuate the cycle of violence, but instead, become opportunities for resilience, healing, and empowerment.

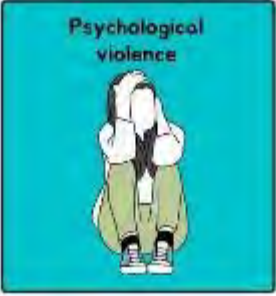

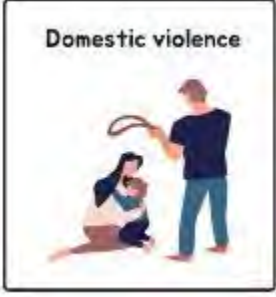


Task for Participants: Ask All Participants do you think the disaster will foster Gender Based Violence (GBV)? Participant will try to identify the forms of GBV that happened with Farzana.

Forms of Violence	Types of GBV
Verbal violence	Domestic violence, Sexual harassment
Psychological violence	Domestic violence, Emotional manipulation, Gaslighting, Isolation and control
Sexual violence	Rape, Sexual harassment, Marital rape
Socio-economic violence	Child marriage, Dowry-related violence, Human trafficking, Forced prostitution, Exploitation of labor
Domestic violence	Domestic violence, Marital rape
Physical violence	Domestic violence, Acid attacks, Stalking

There are several types of gender-based violence, including:

		<p>Verbal violence, also known as verbal abuse or verbal aggression, is a form of aggressive behavior that involves the use of words, tone, or language to harm, belittle, intimidate, or control another person. While it can occur in various contexts, including personal relationships, workplaces, and public spaces, it is also a significant aspect of gender-based violence.</p>
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	 <p>Psychological violence</p>	<p>Psychological violence, also referred to as emotional or mental abuse, is a form of violence that primarily targets a person's psychological well-being, emotions, and mental health. It involves behaviors or actions that manipulate, control, degrade, or intimidate an individual, causing emotional harm and distress. Psychological violence can occur in various contexts, including personal relationships, workplaces, educational settings, and institutions</p>
	 <p>Harassment, sexual harassment and Sexual Violence</p>	<p>Sexual violence is a form of gender-based violence that involves any non-consensual sexual act or behavior imposed on an individual. It encompasses a wide range of actions that are intended to exercise power, control, and dominance over the victim. Sexual violence can occur within various contexts, including intimate relationships, families, communities, schools, workplaces, and during armed conflicts</p>
	 <p>Socio-economic violence</p>	<p>Socio-economic violence, also known as economic abuse or financial violence, refers to a form of abuse in which an individual's economic resources and financial independence are controlled, exploited, or withheld by another person. It is a tactic used to exert power and control over the victim, often in the context of an intimate relationship. Socio-economic violence can occur across various socio-economic backgrounds and can affect both women and men</p>
	 <p>Domestic violence</p>	<p>Domestic violence, also known as intimate partner violence, is a pattern of abusive behavior that occurs within an intimate relationship. It involves the exertion of power and control by one partner over the other through various forms of violence and abuse. While domestic violence can occur in any relationship, it predominantly affects women and is rooted in gender inequality and societal power imbalances.</p>
	 <p>Physical violence</p>	<p>Physical violence is a form of aggression that involves the use of physical force or harm against another person. It is a direct act of inflicting physical pain, injury, or bodily harm, often with the intention to exert power, control, or dominance over the victim. Physical violence can occur in various settings, including domestic relationships, schools, workplaces, communities, and public spaces</p>

(www.coe.int, 10th July 2023)

These types of gender-based violence can occur in many different contexts, including within intimate partner relationships, in the workplace, in public spaces, and during times of conflict or crisis. It is important to recognize and address gender-based violence as a serious violation of human rights, and to work towards creating a more just and equal society for all.

Session 3.2. Recognize the impact of GBV on individuals, families, and communities in Bangladesh.

3.2.1. Impact of GBV in Bangladesh

Gender-based violence (GBV) is a serious problem in Bangladesh. It is estimated that one in three women in Bangladesh has experienced some form of GBV in her lifetime. GBV can have a devastating impact on individuals, families, and communities. (*Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2017*)

Impact on Individuals:

GBV can have a number of negative impacts on individuals, including:

- ❖ **Physical and psychological health problems:** GBV can lead to a range of physical and psychological health problems, including injuries, chronic pain, anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder. (*WHO, (2017)*)
- ❖ **Economic problems:** GBV can lead to economic problems, such as loss of income, job opportunities, and social support.
- ❖ **Social isolation:** GBV can lead to social isolation, as victims may be afraid to leave their homes or to interact with others.
- ❖ **Reduced self-esteem:** GBV can lead to reduced self-esteem and a sense of worthlessness.
- ❖ **Substance abuse:** GBV can lead to substance abuse, as victims may use drugs or alcohol to cope with the trauma of the violence.

(*UNICEF, 2019*)

Impact on Families:

GBV can also have a negative impact on families. For example, it can-

- ❖ **Damage relationships:** GBV can damage relationships between family members, as victims may become withdrawn or distrustful.
- ❖ **Increase the risk of child abuse:** Children who witness GBV are more likely to be abused themselves.
- ❖ **Lead to poverty:** GBV can lead to poverty, as families may lose income or have to spend money on medical care or legal fees.

(*UNICEF, 2019*)

Impact on Communities:

GBV can also have a negative impact on communities. For example, it can:

- ❖ **Create a climate of fear:** GBV can create a climate of fear in communities, as people may be afraid to go out alone or to report the violence.
- ❖ **Damage the economy:** GBV can damage the economy, as businesses may lose productivity and tourists may be afraid to visit the community.
- ❖ **Increase crime:** GBV can increase crime, as victims may turn to violence in order to protect themselves.

(UNICEF, 2019)

Conclusion:

GBV is a serious problem that has a devastating impact on individuals, families, and communities. It is important to raise awareness of GBV and to work to prevent it. There are a number of things that can be done to prevent GBV, including:

Educating people about GBV: Education is essential for preventing GBV. People need to be aware of what GBV is and how it can be harmful.

- ❖ **Challenging gender stereotypes:** Gender stereotypes contribute to GBV. It is important to challenge these stereotypes and to promote gender equality.
- ❖ **Empowering women:** Women need to be empowered to speak out against GBV and to seek help if they are being abused.
- ❖ **Providing support services:** There are a number of support services available to victims of GBV. These services can help victims to heal and to rebuild their lives.







By working together, we can help to prevent GBV and to create a more just and equitable society.

Session 3.3: Root Causes and Risk Factors of Gender-Based Violence in Bangladesh

Gender-based violence (GBV) in Bangladesh is influenced by various root causes and risk factors. These factors contribute to the perpetuation of violence against women and girls in the country. Here are some common root causes and risk factors of GBV in Bangladesh:

3.3.1. Root Causes behind the GBV in Bangladesh

The root causes behind gender-based violence (GBV) in Bangladesh are multifaceted and interconnected. They stem from social, cultural, economic, and systemic factors. Here are some of the key root causes behind GBV in Bangladesh:

-  **Socio-cultural norms and values that perpetuate gender-based violence:** In Bangladesh, there are traditional gender roles that prescribe men to be dominant and women to be submissive. These norms and values contribute to gender-based violence, as men are expected to have control over women and to discipline them when they do not comply. These traditional gender roles are reinforced through cultural practices such as dowry, which can lead to violence against women who do not meet the expectations of their husband's family.
-  **Gender inequality and power dynamics in relationships:** Gender-based violence is often a result of power imbalances in relationships. In Bangladesh, men are often seen as the breadwinners and decision-makers, while women are expected to be obedient and submissive. This power dynamic can lead to situations where men feel entitled to exert control over women, including through physical or emotional violence.
-  **Poverty and economic vulnerability:** Poverty and economic vulnerability can increase the risk of gender-based violence in Bangladesh. Women who are financially dependent on their partners may be less likely to report violence for fear of losing their financial support. Economic insecurity can also lead to forced marriage or trafficking, as families may see it as a way to provide for their daughters.
-  **Lack of access to education and healthcare:** Women in Bangladesh may have limited access to education and healthcare, which can make them more vulnerable to gender-based violence. Lack of education can limit their ability to understand their rights and access support, while poor healthcare can make it difficult for them to seek medical attention after experiencing violence.
-  **Discrimination based on religion, ethnicity, and other factors:** Discrimination based on religion, ethnicity, and other factors can also contribute to gender-based violence in Bangladesh. Women who belong to marginalized communities may face additional challenges in accessing resources and support and may be more vulnerable to violence due to their social status.
-  **Disaster and any emergency:** Overall, these factors highlight the complex and intersectional nature of gender-based violence in Bangladesh. Addressing these issues requires a multi-sectoral approach that involves addressing socio-cultural norms,

promoting gender equality, and improving access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities for women.

(UNICEF,2019).

3.3.2. Risk Factors of Gender-Based Violence in Bangladesh

Gender-based violence (GBV) in Bangladesh is influenced by various risk factors, including social, cultural, economic, and systemic factors. Here are some common risk factors contributing to GBV in Bangladesh:

- ✿ **Gender inequality:** Deep-rooted gender disparities, including unequal power relations between men and women, contribute to GBV. Traditional gender norms, discriminatory practices, and the devaluation of women's rights perpetuate violence against women and girls.
- ✿ **Poverty and economic factors:** Socioeconomic inequalities and poverty exacerbate the risk of GBV. Economic dependence, limited access to resources and opportunities, and financial stress can lead to increased vulnerability to violence.
- ✿ **Cultural norms and practices:** Cultural beliefs, customs, and practices that reinforce gender stereotypes and subordinate women contribute to GBV. Practices such as child marriage, dowry-related violence, and honor-based violence perpetuate violence against women and girls.
- ✿ **Weak legal and justice systems:** Challenges in implementing and enforcing laws related to GBV, inadequate access to justice, and cultural barriers to reporting incidents of violence contribute to a culture of impunity, further perpetuating GBV.
- ✿ **Limited awareness and education:** Insufficient awareness and education about gender equality, human rights, and the consequences of GBV contribute to its perpetuation. Lack of awareness prevents individuals from recognizing abusive behaviors and seeking help.
- ✿ **Social norms and peer influence:** Pressure from social networks, community expectations, and peer influence can perpetuate or normalize GBV. Social norms that condone or justify violence against women and girls contribute to its persistence.
- ✿ **Conflict and displacement:** Ongoing conflicts, displacement, and humanitarian crises increase the vulnerability of individuals to GBV. Disrupted social systems, breakdown of community support structures, and the presence of armed groups contribute to higher rates of violence.
- ✿ **Access to education and healthcare:** Limited access to quality education and healthcare services, particularly for women and girls, hinders their empowerment and increases their vulnerability to GBV.

(UNICEF,2019).

Session 3.4: Gain knowledge of the legal framework and policies in Bangladesh related to addressing GBV.

Bangladesh has taken several legal and policy measures to address gender-based violence (GBV) and promote gender equality. Here are some key legal frameworks and policies in Bangladesh related to addressing GBV:

- ✿ **Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act, 2010:** This act provides legal protection and remedies for victims of domestic violence. It defines domestic violence broadly, covering physical, mental, sexual, and economic abuse within marital and familial relationships. It criminalizes various forms of domestic violence and establishes Special Tribunals to hear cases and provide protection orders.
- ✿ **Nari O Shishu Nirjatan Daman Ain (Women and Children Repression Prevention Act), 2000:** This law addresses various forms of violence against women and children, including rape, acid violence, trafficking, and sexual harassment. It prescribes severe penalties for offenders and sets up specialized courts to expedite the legal process and ensure the rights of survivors.
- ✿ **Acid Control Act, 2002:** This act specifically targets acid violence, a particularly devastating form of GBV in Bangladesh. It regulates the production, sale, and use of acid and imposes stringent punishments for perpetrators. It also includes provisions for the rehabilitation and support of acid attack survivors.
- ✿ **National Women Development Policy, 2011:** This policy focuses on promoting women's rights, gender equality, and addressing GBV. It outlines strategies for improving women's empowerment, access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities. It also emphasizes the prevention of violence against women and the provision of support services for survivors.
- ✿ **National Action Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women and Children, 2013-2025:** This comprehensive plan provides a roadmap for preventing and responding to violence against women and children. It includes strategies for raising awareness, strengthening legal frameworks, improving access to justice and support services, and engaging various stakeholders in combating GBV.
- ✿ **Guidelines for Responding to GBV in Humanitarian Settings:** Bangladesh has also developed specific guidelines to address GBV in humanitarian settings, particularly in response to the Rohingya refugee crisis. These guidelines focus on preventing and responding to GBV among refugee populations, ensuring their safety and well-being.
- ✿ **Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2017:** This act aims to prevent and restrain child marriage in Bangladesh. It sets the minimum age of marriage as 18 for females and 21 for males, aligning with the provisions of the Child Marriage Restraint Act of 1929. The act criminalizes the solemnization and facilitation of child marriages, imposing penalties on offenders, including imprisonment and fines.

It is important to note that while Bangladesh has made significant progress in legal and policy frameworks, there are still challenges in implementation, awareness, and access to justice. Continued efforts are required to ensure effective enforcement of laws, strengthen support services, and promote a culture of gender equality and non-violence in Bangladesh.

Session 3.5: Impacts of Gender-Based Violence on Survivors and their Families

Gender-based violence (GBV) has significant and far-reaching impacts on survivors and their families. The consequences of GBV extend beyond the immediate physical and psychological harm experienced by the survivor. Here are some of the impacts of GBV on survivors and their families:

- ✿ **Physical health consequences:** Survivors of GBV may suffer physical injuries ranging from bruises and fractures to more severe injuries requiring medical intervention. They may also face long-term health issues such as chronic pain, reproductive health problems, sexually transmitted infections, and increased risk of HIV/AIDS.
- ✿ **Psychological and emotional trauma:** GBV can cause severe psychological and emotional trauma. Survivors may experience anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), flashbacks, nightmares, and a diminished sense of self-worth. They may also struggle with trust, intimacy, and forming healthy relationships.
- ✿ **Social and relational impacts:** Survivors of GBV often face social stigma, isolation, and discrimination. They may experience difficulties in maintaining relationships, face rejection from family or community, and encounter barriers to seeking support and services. GBV can disrupt family dynamics and strain relationships within the survivor's family, affecting both immediate and extended family members.
- ✿ **Economic consequences:** GBV can have significant economic implications. Survivors may face barriers to education and employment due to physical and psychological trauma. Economic abuse, such as controlling or limiting access to financial resources, can further exacerbate financial dependence and restrict survivors' ability to achieve financial stability and independence.
- ✿ **Inter-generational impacts:** The impacts of GBV can extend to the next generation. Children growing up in households where GBV occurs may experience adverse effects on their physical, emotional, and cognitive development. They may witness violence, suffer from neglect, and face increased risks of engaging in violent behavior themselves or becoming victims of violence in the future.
- ✿ **Community and societal impacts:** GBV have broader social implications, including perpetuating gender inequality and reinforcing harmful norms. It can erode community trust, perpetuate cycles of violence, and hinder social and economic development at the societal level.

Addressing the impacts of GBV requires a comprehensive response that includes provision of medical and psychological support to survivors, legal protections, awareness campaigns, education and economic empowerment programs, and efforts to challenge societal norms that perpetuate violence. It is crucial to provide comprehensive support to survivors and their families to facilitate healing, recovery, and the restoration of their overall well-being.

Session 3.6: Explore the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders in preventing and responding to GBV.

Preventing and responding to gender-based violence (GBV) requires the collective efforts of multiple stakeholders. Various actors play crucial roles in addressing GBV. Here are the key stakeholders and their respective roles and responsibilities:

Government and Policy Makers:

- ✿ **Develop and enforce legislation:** Governments have the responsibility to enact and enforce laws that criminalize GBV, protect survivors, and hold perpetrators accountable. They should ensure that legal frameworks are comprehensive, gender-responsive, and effectively implemented.
- ✿ **Allocate resources:** Governments should allocate adequate financial resources to support GBV prevention and response initiatives. This includes funding for support services, awareness campaigns, research, and capacity-building programs.
- ✿ **Develop policies and action plans:** Governments should develop national policies and action plans that outline strategies for preventing GBV, supporting survivors, and promoting gender equality. These policies should be inclusive, evidence-based, and involve multiple sectors.
- ✿ **Law Enforcement and Justice System:**
- ✿ **Ensure access to justice:** Law enforcement agencies should promptly and effectively respond to reports of GBV, conduct thorough investigations, and ensure survivors have access to justice without fear of reprisal.
- ✿ **Sensitize and train personnel:** Police officers, prosecutors, and judges should receive specialized training on GBV laws, survivor-centered approaches, and trauma-informed practices. This helps in addressing survivor needs, reducing victim-blaming, and ensuring fair and effective legal processes.
- ✿ **Establish specialized units and courts:** Dedicated units within law enforcement agencies and specialized courts can enhance the handling of GBV cases. These units and courts should have well-trained personnel and streamlined procedures to ensure timely and sensitive handling of cases.

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs):

- ✿ **Provide support services:** CSOs and NGOs often provide essential support services to GBV survivors, including safe shelter, counseling, medical assistance, legal aid, and rehabilitation. They play a crucial role in creating safe spaces and empowering survivors.
- ✿ **Raise awareness and advocate:** CSOs and NGOs conduct awareness campaigns, educational programs, and community mobilization activities to challenge harmful gender norms, promote gender equality, and prevent GBV. They also advocate for policy

reforms and engage in research and data collection to inform evidence-based interventions.

- ✿ **Capacity-building and training:** CSOs and NGOs provide training and capacity-building programs for service providers, community leaders, and other stakeholders. This strengthens their understanding of GBV, survivor support, and prevention strategies.
- ✿ **Health Sector:**
- ✿ **Provide medical care:** Healthcare providers should offer comprehensive and sensitive medical care to GBV survivors, including treatment for injuries, emergency contraception, STI/HIV testing, and mental health support.
- ✿ **Training and protocols:** Health professionals should receive training on identifying and responding to GBV cases, utilizing standardized protocols for documentation, evidence collection, and referral to support services.
- ✿ **Prevention and education:** The health sector should contribute to GBV prevention efforts by integrating gender-based violence prevention and reproductive health education into health programs. This helps raise awareness and empower individuals to seek support.

Educational Institutions:

- ✿ **Incorporate GBV prevention in curricula:** Educational institutions should integrate comprehensive and age-appropriate education on gender equality, consent, healthy relationships, and GBV prevention into school curricula.
- ✿ **Create safe environments:** Schools and universities should establish safe and inclusive environments that address and respond to GBV, including through the development of anti-harassment policies and support mechanisms for survivors.
- ✿ **Provide training to staff:** Teachers, counselors, and administrators should receive training on recognizing signs of GBV, providing support to survivors, and creating a supportive educational environment.

Media and Communication:

- ✿ **Responsible reporting:** Media should report on GBV cases responsibly, without sensationalizing or re-victimizing survivors. They can contribute to public awareness by highlighting GBV issues, promoting positive role models, and challenging harmful gender stereotypes.
- ✿ **Engage in awareness campaigns:** Media outlets can collaborate with NGOs and government agencies to disseminate information, raise awareness, and challenge societal norms that perpetuate GBV.
- ✿ **Promote survivor stories and support services:** Media platforms can provide space for survivors to share their stories, seek support, and promote available resources and helplines.

Community and Religious Leaders:

- ✿ **Challenge harmful norms:** Community and religious leaders have the influence to challenge harmful gender norms, promote gender equality, and advocate for non-violence and respect in relationships.
- ✿ **Support survivors:** They can provide emotional support and guidance to survivors within their communities, encourage them to seek help, and work towards reducing stigma and discrimination associated with GBV.
- ✿ **Promote community engagement:** Community leaders can organize awareness campaigns, discussions, and workshops to involve community members in GBV prevention and response efforts.

It is essential for these stakeholders to collaborate and coordinate their efforts to effectively prevent and respond to GBV, ensuring survivors' rights are protected, and holding perpetrators accountable.

Session 3.7: Learn about effective strategies and interventions to prevent and respond to GBV in Bangladesh.

Gender-based violence (GBV) is a significant issue in Bangladesh, and addressing it requires a comprehensive approach that combines prevention strategies and intervention methods. Here are some key strategies and methods for preventing and addressing gender-based violence in Bangladesh:

Prevention Strategies:

Public Awareness and Education: Promote gender equality and raise awareness about the consequences and impacts of gender-based violence through educational campaigns targeting schools, colleges, communities, and the media.

Legal Reforms and Policies: Advocate for and implement legal reforms that protect the rights of victims and survivors of gender-based violence. Strengthen the enforcement of existing laws and develop comprehensive policies that address all forms of GBV.

Empowering Women and Girls: Promote women's empowerment and gender equality through initiatives that focus on education, vocational training, economic empowerment, and leadership development. Strengthen women's access to resources and opportunities, which can help reduce their vulnerability to violence.

Engaging Men and Boys: Involve men and boys as allies in the prevention of GBV. Promote positive masculinity, challenge harmful gender norms, and encourage men and boys to be actively involved in promoting gender equality and preventing violence.

Community Mobilization: Foster community-based initiatives that encourage collective responsibility and engagement in preventing GBV. Establish community support networks, engage religious and community leaders, and create safe spaces for open dialogue and support.

(asiapacific.unwomen.org & gov.nl.ca)

Response Methods:

Helplines and Support Services: Establish helplines and support services that provide confidential counseling, information, and referrals for victims and survivors of GBV. Ensure these services are accessible and adequately resourced.

Safe Spaces and Shelters: Establish safe spaces and shelters for survivors of GBV, providing a secure environment, temporary accommodation, medical care, counseling, legal aid, and other necessary support services.

Legal Support and Justice: Enhance access to justice for survivors by providing legal aid, facilitating the reporting and investigation of cases, and ensuring fair and timely trials. Train law enforcement officials, judges, and lawyers on gender-sensitive approaches and laws related to GBV.

Psychological and Medical Support: Provide comprehensive healthcare services, including medical treatment, counseling, and psychosocial support for survivors of GBV. Train healthcare professionals on trauma-informed care and addressing the specific needs of survivors.

Rehabilitation and Reintegration: Support the rehabilitation and reintegration of survivors into society by providing vocational training, livelihood support, and assistance in accessing education and employment opportunities. Work with employers to promote inclusive workplaces and support survivors' economic independence.

(gage.odi.org, mowca.portal.gov.bd & theconversation.com)



Group Work

Session 3.8. Group Work Title: Identifying Gender-Based Violence in Disaster Periods and Suggesting Preventive and Mitigative Strategies

Objective: The objective of this group work is to enhance participants' understanding of gender-based violence (GBV) that occurs during disaster periods and to brainstorm possible preventive and mitigative strategies. By working collaboratively, participants will gain valuable insights and develop practical solutions to address GBV in disaster situations.

Group Size: Ideally, the group should consist of 4-6 participants to encourage active participation and effective collaboration.

Duration: Allocate approximately 1.25 (75 Minutes) hours for this group work session, depending on the depth of discussions and activities.

Materials Needed:

- ❖ Flipchart paper and markers
- ❖ Sticky notes and pens
- ❖ Handouts or worksheets related to GBV in disaster situations (optional)

Group Work Structure:

Introduction (5 minutes):

- ❖ Welcome the participants and provide a brief overview of the session's objectives.
- ❖ Explain the importance of addressing GBV in disaster contexts and its impact on affected communities.
- ❖ Introduce any relevant statistics or case studies to emphasize the severity of the issue.

Icebreaker Activity: "Shared Perspectives" (5 minutes):

- ❖ Divide participants into pairs or small groups.
- ❖ Instruct them to discuss and share their personal experiences or observations related to GBV in disaster periods.
- ❖ After the discussion, ask each group to share one key insight or perspective they gained during the activity.

Presentation and Discussion: Understanding GBV in Disaster Periods (10 minutes):

- ❖ Provide a brief presentation on the dynamics and common forms of GBV that occur during disaster periods.

- ❖ Highlight the vulnerabilities faced by women, girls, and marginalized groups in such situations.
- ❖ Encourage participants to ask questions and share their thoughts or experiences related to GBV in disaster contexts.

Group Activity: Identifying GBV in Disaster Scenarios (10 minutes):

- ❖ Divide participants into small groups.
- ❖ Distribute scenarios or case studies related to disaster situations, each depicting a different aspect of GBV.
- ❖ Instruct the groups to analyze and identify instances of GBV in the given scenarios.
- ❖ Ask each group to present their findings and discuss the factors contributing to GBV in each situation.

Brainstorming Session: Preventive and Mitigative Strategies (10 minutes):

- ❖ Bring the participants back together and facilitate a brainstorming session.
- ❖ Provide an overview of the key components of effective preventive and mitigative strategies for GBV in disaster contexts.
- ❖ Encourage participants to generate ideas and suggestions for addressing GBV.
- ❖ Write down all ideas on a flipchart for everyone to see and reference.

Group Discussion and Prioritization (5 minutes):

- ❖ Engage the participants in a discussion to explore the feasibility, effectiveness, and potential challenges associated with the suggested strategies.
- ❖ Encourage participants to share their perspectives and thoughts on prioritizing certain strategies over others.
- ❖ Facilitate a collective decision-making process to identify the most promising strategies.

Presentation and open Discussion (20 Minutes):

- ❖ Provide a brief presentation on the dynamics and common forms of GBV that occur during disaster periods.
- ❖ Highlight the vulnerabilities faced by women, girls, and marginalized groups in such situations.
- ❖ Discuss the underlying factors contributing to GBV in disaster contexts, such as disrupted social systems, increased stress levels, lack of security, and limited access to resources and support services.
- ❖ Encourage participants to ask questions and share their thoughts or experiences related to GBV in disaster contexts.
- ❖ Facilitate an open discussion to explore participants' understanding of the topic, challenge any misconceptions, and deepen their awareness of the issue.

Wrap-up and Conclusion (10 minutes):

- ❖ Summarize the key points discussed during the session, highlighting the identified strategies.
- ❖ Invite participants to reflect on their learning and discuss any further questions or concerns they may have.
- ❖ Provide additional resources, references, or handouts for participants to explore further on their own.

Annex-1: References

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Annex-2: Detail Training Schedule

The Training Schedule and Contents is given in the below-

SL No	Contents	Time Frame
Manual0: Introduction, Objectives of Manual, and Facilitator Guidelines		
A	Introduction	
B	Background	
C	Objectives	
D	Manual Outline	
E	Detail Manual Outline	
F	Facilitator Guidelines	
Day-1		
Manual 1: Impact of Disaster and Climate Change on Health and Family Planning sector and its preparedness and adaptation practice in Bangladesh		
1.1	Session 1.1: Basic concept of Disaster, DRR, CCA, Disaster resilience and Disaster management Disaster Terminology Disasters in Bangladesh	90 minutes
1.2	Session 1.2: Introduction to Climate Change, its impacts on Bangladesh Concept, Cause, and consequences of Climate Change. Climate Change in Bangladesh Adaptation and Mitigation strategies of Climate Change Impacts in Bangladesh Policy and institutional framework of Disaster Management	90 minutes
1.3	Session 1.3: Disaster Management, Preparedness and Resilience Strategies 1.3.1 Basic concept of Disaster Management, preparedness and Resilience 1.3.2. Disaster preparedness measures for Health and Family Planning Sector 1.3.3. Importance of Climate Change mitigation and disaster preparedness 1.3.4. Impact of Climate Change induced disaster on health and Family Planning sector in Bangladesh	90 minutes
1.4	1.4.1. Story -1: Inundated Hope: A Chronicle of Challenging Pregnancies in Flood-Prone Bangladesh 1.4.1.a. Group Work-1 Title: Enhancing Maternal Healthcare in Flood-Prone Regions: Building Resilience and Preparedness 1.4.2. Story-2 Title: "Breaking Taboos, Ensuring Dignity: Transforming Menstrual Hygiene Management in Cyclone-Prone Bangladesh" 1.4.2.a. Group Work-2 Title: Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Challenges and the Way Forward in Cyclone-Prone Bangladesh	60 minutes

	<p>1.4.3. Story-3 Title: Broken Dreams: Confronting the Harsh Realities of Child Marriage Amidst Disaster</p> <p>1.4.3.a. Group Work-3 Title: Empowering Health Service Providers in Combating Early Marriage and Its Consequences</p>	
Day-2		
Manual 2: Gender in Climate Induced Disaster		
2.1	<p>Session 2.1: Understanding Gender in Climate Induced Disaster</p> <p>2.1.1. Introduction basic concept of Gender Terminology</p> <p>2.1.2. Overview of the impact of disasters on women and girls focusing Health and Family Planning in Bangladesh</p> <p>2.1.3. Discussion on the intersectionality of gender, class, and other factors in disaster situations in BD</p>	60 minutes
2.2	<p>Session 2.2: Empowering Women and Girls:</p> <p>2.2.1. Overview of the women empowerment, aspects of women empowerment, empower women and girls in leadership roles during disaster management.</p> <p>2.2.2. Importance of empowering women and girls for CCA and DRR in Bangladesh with example.</p>	60 minutes
2.3	<p>Session 2.2: Empowering Women and Girls</p> <p>2.3.1. Story 1- Title: Empowering Women's Voices: Ensuring Participation in Decision-Making in Disaster preparedness.</p> <p>2.3.2. Story 2: Title: "Breaking Barriers: A Heroine of Health in the Face of Disaster"</p> <p>2.3.3. Story-3: Title- "Gender Sensitive Disaster Response: A Tale of Woman Empowerment in the Face of Disaster"</p>	60 minutes
2.4	<p>Session 2.4: Promoting Gender Equality in Disaster Management</p> <p>2.4.1. Introduction to Gender Equality and Climate-Induced Disasters</p> <p>2.4.2. Why Gender Analysis and gender equity is essential in Climate-Induced Disaster Management?</p> <p>2.4.3. Gender-Sensitive Early Warning Systems for Effective Climate Induced Disaster Management</p> <p>2.4.4. Discuss Gender-Responsive Disaster Preparedness and Response for Climate-Induced Disaster in Bangladesh Perspective</p> <p>2.4.5. Advocacy and Partnerships for Gender Equality in Climate Change Resilience in Bangladesh Perspective</p> <p>2.4.6. How to ensure gender equity in our society during emergency and disaster periods:</p> <p>2.4.7. How to ensure the gender issue in health and family service delivery during disaster?</p>	90 minutes
2.5	<p>Session 2.5: Conclusion and Action Plan</p> <p>2.5.1. Guidelines for How to prepare a Gender-Sensitive Disaster Preparedness Plan for the Health Sector and Family Planning Sector (Upazila Base).</p>	90minutes

	2.5.2. Action Plan Title: Gender-Sensitive Disaster Preparedness Plan for the Health Sector (Upazila Base)	
Day -3		
Manual 3: Gender-Based Violence in Bangladesh Perspective		
3.1.	Session 3.1: Definition and Forms of Gender-Based Violence 3.1.0. Gender-based violence in Bangladesh up by 24% amid Covid-19 pandemic 3.1.1. Definition of gender-based violence 3.1.2. Forms of gender-based violence, including physical, sexual, psychological, and economic violence	45 minutes
3.2.	3.2. Recognize the impact of GBV on individuals, families, and communities in Bangladesh. 3.2.1. Impact of GBV in Bangladesh	45 minutes
3.3.	Session 3.3: Root Causes and Risk Factors of Gender-Based Violence in Bangladesh 3.3.1. Root Causes behind the GBV in Bangladesh 3.3.2. Risk Factors of Gender-Based Violence in Bangladesh	45 minutes
3.4.	Session 3.4: Gain knowledge of the legal framework and policies in Bangladesh related to addressing GBV.	45 minutes
3.5.	Session 3.5: Impacts of Gender-Based Violence on Survivors and their Families	40 minutes
3.6	Session 3.6: Explore the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders in preventing and responding to GBV.	40 minutes
3.7	Session 3.7: Learn about effective strategies and interventions to prevent and respond to GBV in Bangladesh.	40 minutes
3.8	Session 3.8: Identifying Gender-Based Violence in Disaster Periods and Suggesting Preventive and Mitigative Strategies	60 Minutes

Annex-3: Pre-test and Post-tase Questionnaire and Answer.

The right answer is marked as green bold letter.

1. **What is gender-based violence?**
 - (a) Violence between people of different genders**
 - (b) Violence motivated by gender inequality and imbalance of power
 - (c) Violence that is limited to physical abuse only

2. **Which form of the following violence can be considered gender-based violence?**
 - (a) Domestic violence
 - (b) Sexual harassment
 - (c) Forced marriage
 - (d) All of the above**

3. **True or false: Gender-based violence only affects women and girls.**
 - (a) Truth
 - (b) False**

4. **What are the consequences of gender-based violence?**
 - (a) Physical injury
 - (b) Trauma
 - (c) Long-term psychological impact
 - (d) All of the above**

5. **How can society deal with and prevent gender-based violence?**
 - (a) Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
 - (b) Provide education and awareness programmes.
 - (c) Strengthen laws and policies against violence
 - (d) All of the above**

6. **What is disaster?**
- (a) **A sudden natural event that causes significant damage and loss of life**
 - (b) A man-made event that disrupts the normal functioning of a community
 - (c) A minor event that has no significant impact on the affected area
7. **Which of the following events can be considered as natural disasters?**
- (a) Earthquake
 - (b) Flood
 - (c) Hurricane
 - (d) **All of the above**
8. **True or false: Disaster management is entirely the responsibility of the government.**
- (a) Truth
 - (b) **False**
9. **What are the key steps of disaster management?**
- (a) **Preparation, response, recovery and mitigation**
 - (b) Assessment, eviction, relief distribution and rehabilitation
 - (c) Alert, search and rescue, damage assessment and reconstruction
10. **What is the purpose of disaster management?**
- (a) **Reduce the impact of disasters on people's lives and property**
 - (b) Maximize the profit earned from the disaster situation
 - (c) To create panic and chaos among the affected population
11. **What is gender?**
- (a) Biological characteristics that define men and women
 - (b) **Socially constructed roles, behaviors, and expectations associated with being male or female.**

- (c) Synonyms for sex
12. **True or false: Gender is the same as Sex.**
- (a) Truth
 - (b) False**
13. **What is gender equality?**
- (a) To ensure equal opportunities and rights for people of all genders**
 - (b) Preferring one gender over the other
 - (c) Maintaining traditional gender norms and roles.
14. **What is gender identity?**
- (a) A person's deeply felt feeling of being male, female, or something else**
 - (b) Biological characteristics that determine one's gender
 - (c) Roles and behaviors assigned to individuals based on gender
15. **What is gender inequality?**
- (a) Treating individuals unfairly based on gender**
 - (b) Promoting equal opportunities and rights for all genders
 - (c) Respect and evaluate differences between genders

Annex-4: Training Photo Gallery



Picture 2: Chief Guest of Training Session giving his speeches



Picture 1: Group Work Session at Sylhet Training



Picture 4: Consultant was Conducting the Training Session at Kishorgonj



Picture 3: Participant Presenting their group work @ Sylhet Trainig Session



Picture 6: 1st Day Session Review at Day 2 @ Kishoreganj



Picture 5: Participant was Reviewing the Training Session