Background

The major part of The Indian Sundarbans constitutes Nineteen blocks from south and North 24 parganas District, the most critical and unique agro-climatic zone of the earth. The Sundarbans, facing severe crisis like – Tropical Cyclones, flood, submergence after monsoon and cyclic salinity requires technical and specific solutions towards managing it. In order to create the climate resilience through integrated natural resource management and sustainable livelihoods enhancements, South 24 parganas district has conceptualized a unique programme partnership with a wide range of stakeholders.

The cyclone Yaas left trails of destruction and the rivers and coastal and riverine belts are devastated to the core. The severe cyclonic storm 'YAAS' (pronounced as 'yass') lay centred at 13.30 hrs IST of the 26th may, 2021 over north coastal Odisha near latitude 21.55°N and longitude 86.8°E, about 15 km west of Balasore with 100-110 kmph gusting to 120 kmph. Tidal waves of height 1-2 meters above astronomical tide have inundated low-lying areas of Balasore, Bhadrak, Medinipur, South 24 Parganas, North 24 Pgs districts during the cyclone.

In the project areas of DRCSC in the South and North 24 Parganas, there has been massive devastation disrupting life and livelihood security due to long term water logging situation. Along with cyclone Yass, the high tide followed by deep depression, has caused the saline water inundation in most of the Sundarbans. The most of the crop lands are under water, the water logging situation is lasted for more than 30 hours. The agricultural lands are submerged, domestic fish ponds are full of saline water – fish either have flowed away or are dying and the livelihood options are under threat.

The severity of the cyclone on 26th May, 2021 has badly impacted all the embankments of the river. A Large number have failed across the delta and the saline river water has obtained a free flow access to the villages and the agriculture lands. The imputes is too high for the habitats of the delta while just got back to the post-aila(Cyclone 2009) normalcy. Agricultural lands were submerged in places and are inundated with saline water, by and large, made the land and pond as non productive in nature. The worst impacted resources are water bodies' saline river water polluting the tank water to the extreme to spoil the phyto and zoo planktons and the entire fish species in the sweet water tanks. Almost more than half of the water bodies, affected due to intrusion of saline water during and after the cyclone, has also incurred the fish loss, in totality.

The vulnerability of the people has increased many folds by breaching in the embankments of the river, which has caused the saline water to inundate the villages and the crop fields. Saline water made its way to the fresh water pond. Most of the tube wells have also got inundated which has eliminated the possibility of getting drinking water. The vulnerable families are starving and facing an acute crisis of food. During the state wide lockdown, a huge number of workers from the unorganized sectors in urban and rural areas have lost their jobs. They are getting ration but that is not sufficient for 4-5 member families. Unlike last year, this year the village people have also got affected from COVID 19 vastly, in most of the houses, people are suffering from fever, cough & cold. Neither are they going for tests or medicine nor they have access to any nutritious meals, as a result they become so weak that they are unable to go for any physical activity.

Location

DRCSC provided relief support for approx 2400 households covering 5 Gram Panchayats in Patharpratima and Namkhana Block of South 24 Parganas district.

This relief programme was conducted in most vulnerable area of the delta of sunderbans where the people took shelter in school or flood centre of the respected area for a long period of time. For this relief programme there are 5 GP of 2

block namely Ramganga, Gplot, Drubachati, Gopalnagar gram panchayat under patharpratima block and Freserganj gram panchayat of Namkhana block of south 24 parganas district has been selected.

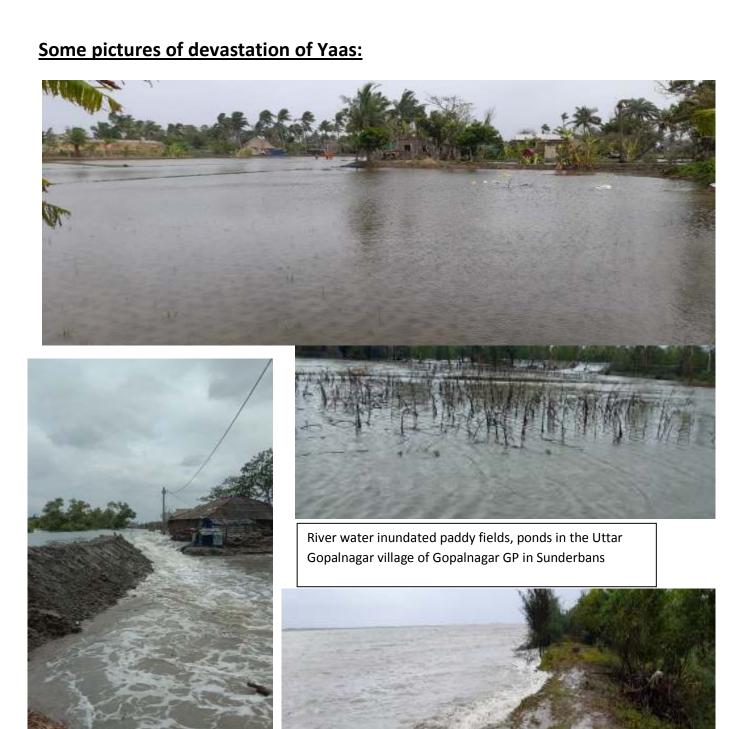
Support for immediate relief:

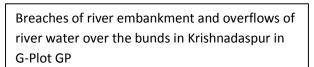
- Dry ration kits
- Nonfood items such as water resources purification kit (Lime & bleaching powder), sanitary napkin, soap, mask, etc.

Reach

During this situation relief programme was conducted under the WHH-SIFS (IND-1377) project for the affected families by YAAS. Through this relief programme the major effort given to rehabilitate the normal life of village community. Where the 700 family got dry ration kit for the family members, 2400 family (Women) got the hygiene kit for maintaining the good health and hygiene during the wet condition and 1000 family got the kit for the purification of their water resources for rejuvenating the aquaculture livelihoods in the delta.

Sl.no	Name of GP	Block	Dry Ration kit (family)	Hygiene kit (family)	Water resource purification kit (family)	Remarks
1	Gopalnagar GP	Patharpratima	200	500	0	All kits distributed
2	Durbachati GP	Patharpratima	250	600	400	All kits distributed
3	G plot GP	Patharpratima	100	400	300	All kits distributed
4	Ramganga GP	Patharpratima	0	500	0	All kits distributed
5	Fraserganj GP	Namkhana	150	400	300	All kits distributed
Total			700	2400	1000	









Massive destruction in agricultural land in Gobindapur Abad village in Brajaballavpur GP

River water overflows roads and enters into cropping fields in G-plot,



Villagers trying hard to fix the river embankments in G-plot

Some glimpses of relief distribution under SIFS-WHH project



Relief
distribution at
Gopalnagar,
Patharpratima
block



Relief distribution at Gplot of Patharpratima block





Relief distribution at Brajoballav pur of Patharpratima block

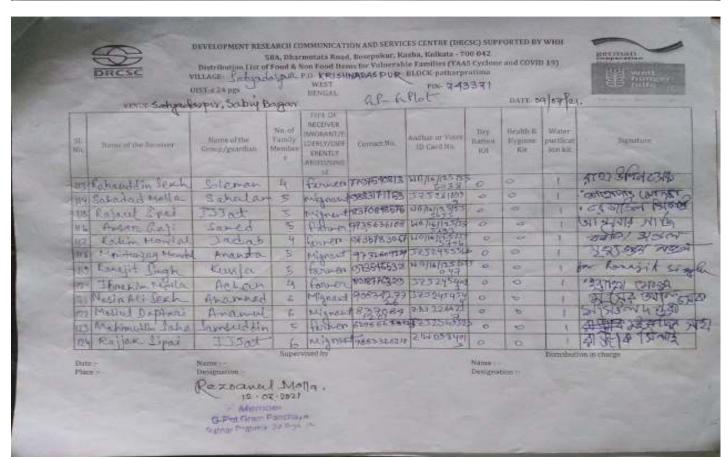
> Relief distribution at Durbachati of Patharpratima block



Hygiene kit distribution at Ramganga Gp of Patharpratima block

Some Participant lists of Relief distribution are:-

		DRESC	DESTRUCTION LIST. VILLAGE SCHOOL DIST = 24 pgs Loopur Sobol Bog	SUA DR	Armotata Ro.	ad Busepultur,	Kasha, Kolkata - ible families (VA BLOCK-pathar) PIN- R-4	766 042 A5 Cyclon tratima	e and COVI		ESTUDIO.
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DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH COMMUNICATION AND SERVICES CENTRE (DRCSC) SUPPORTED BY WITH

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Secretary.

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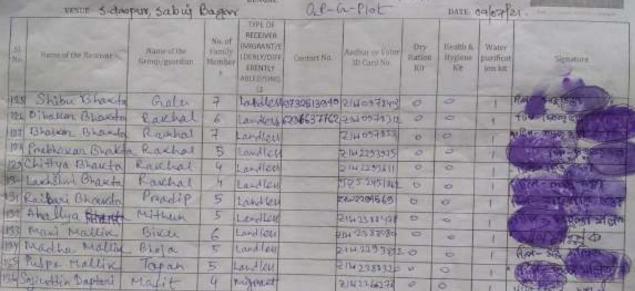
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58A, Dharmotata Road, Bosepuloir, Kasba, Kolkata - 700 042

Distribution List of Food & Non-Food Herns for Valuerable Families (YAAS Cyxfone and COVID 19)
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Distribution in charge

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Thank You