



# The Community Flood Management Programme (CFMP) in South Asia: Pilot Phase (Bangladesh, India, Nepal)

**WMO/GWP APFM**

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## The goals of the project

- Help raise the capacity of (i.e. empower) the people of flood-prone areas to manage floods as best as possible
- Develop flood management manuals and strategies in the pilot phase to provide the framework for effective community responses to reduce flood vulnerability and flood losses and damages



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- After testing and validation of the manuals, full implementation of the project, as designed to be carried for reducing flood vulnerability on wide-scales in the three countries.



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## The purposes have been to

- Assemble information, through interactions with the people, on community-level coping strategies employed traditionally
- Analyze flood management activities and practices at the community level
- Ascertain the community's level and magnitude of perception of flood as a risk



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## The process has involved the following:

- Determination of the needs and expectations of the communities *vis-a-vis* flood mitigation and loss minimization
- Assessment of their levels of flood preparedness



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## The process (contd.)

- Designing methods to enhance their capacity and options for more effective responses to reduce flood vulnerability, finalized into community-based flood management manuals



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## Study locations

- The pilot study was conducted in three locations in India and two locations each in Bangladesh and Nepal.



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## Milestones achieved

- Field visits/focus group discussions (FGDs) conducted
- Participatory rural appraisals (PRAs) conducted
- Key informants interviewed
- Elements of flood management strategies identified
- Flood management strategies developed
- Draft flood management manual (FMM) in English prepared





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## Milestones (contd.)

- FMMs field-tested in target areas/locations
- FMMs (based on comments from the field) revised
- Participatory Training Workshops at the Grassroots (target locations) conducted
- Country FMMs printed and disseminated in local language(s)
- A synthesis of the three country-manuals prepared



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## Field validation of manuals

- After finalization, the manuals were implemented in each country on a limited scale for validation—in two areas in Bangladesh, one area in India, and two areas in Nepal—during 2004 severe floods



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## Flood preparedness

- Formation of the community organization (CFMCs/FMCs)
- Assessing needs and capabilities of the community
- Organizing information dissemination and training for capacity building
- Planning interface with government



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## Preparedness (contd.)

- Monitoring and reporting
- Making provisions for emergency situations
- Drills
- Managing information for future reference
- Resource mobilization



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## Response to floods

- **At all stages (pre, during, and post-flood):**
  - CFMC will coordinate and arrange community flood responses to be undertaken
  - Households will do whatever they can by themselves, or assisted by CFMC as required



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## Response to floods (contd.)

- During a normal flood, households can do most of the things, by themselves or with assistance from CFMC wherever required
- During a major flood, households can do quite a lot at the pre-flood stage, but usually not much at other stages  
(see list of possible household activities)



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## ■ Pre-Flood Responses

- Press CFMC into action if it exists, if not establish one and put it to work
- Assign responsibilities
- Establish a vigilance Task Force
- Collect flood forecast information continuously from all possible sources



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## ■ Pre-Flood Responses (contd.)

- Issue warning as necessary, by showing flags; using drum, cell phone, FM radio, walkie-talkie; passing the message by word of mouth
- Identify shelters and prepare them: tents, food, drinking water, sanitary facilities, healthcare etc.





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## ■ During-flood responses

### ➤ Enduring floods

- ✓ improving housing condition
- ✓ food and drinking water storage and handling
- ✓ nutrition supply
- ✓ maintaining healthcare and hygiene
- ✓ safeguarding agricultural production
- ✓ maintaining mobility
- ✓ maintaining liaison



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- **During-flood responses (contd.)**
  - Escaping floods, i.e. moving to flood shelters
    - ✓ taking refuge in tents in flood shelters/camps
    - ✓ moving goods and livestock to flood shelters and elsewhere if needed
    - ✓ Arrange physical relocation of people to flood shelters/camps, specially the old, the sick, the children and pregnant women, when needed



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- **During-flood responses (contd.)**
  - ✓ manage day-to-day activities in running the flood shelters/camps
  - ✓ maintain healthcare facilities
  - ✓ arrange security and public order in and around flood shelters
  - ✓ miscellaneous activities



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- **Post-flood rehabilitation**

- Returning home
- Continuation of relief activities, as required
- Inventory and assessment of damages/loses
- Assessing needs of the community and identifying the most needy households for rehabilitation



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- **Rehabilitation (contd.)**
- Prioritizing and implementing rehabilitation activities, which may include:
  - ✓ rehabilitation of housing
  - ✓ rehabilitation of agricultural production
  - ✓ revitalization of economic activities

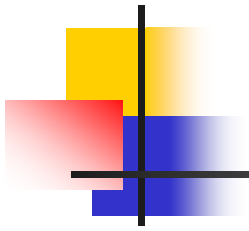


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## ■ Rehabilitation (contd.)

- ✓ rehabilitation of infrastructure, including roads, electricity, telecommunication, schools and colleges, hospitals
- ✓ compensatory classes for the students for loss of teaching time
- ✓ restoration of health care, hygiene and sanitation services
- ✓ rehabilitation of the flood shelters/camps



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Thank you