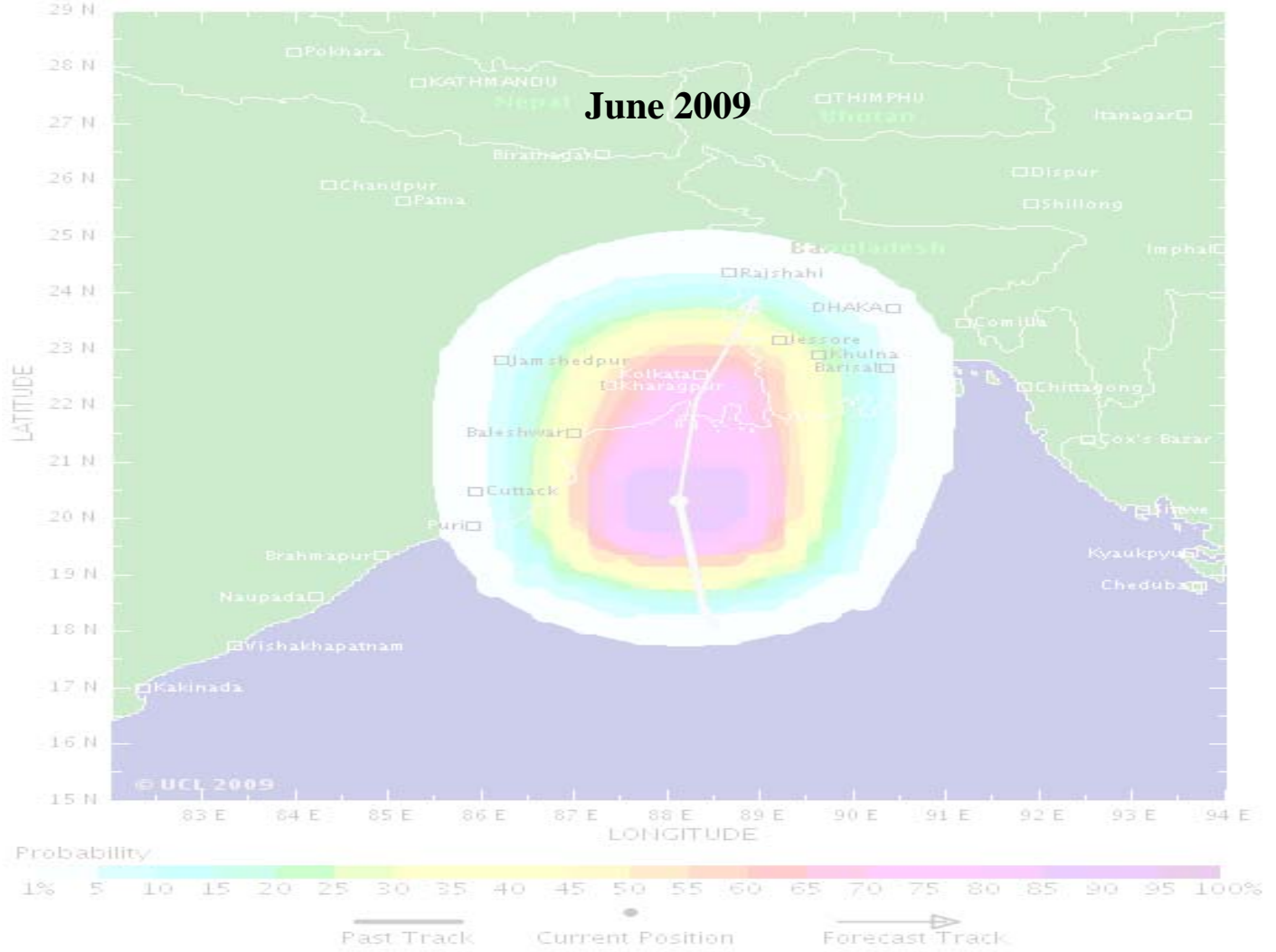


Report on

Shushilan's activities in cyclone Aila affected areas



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1. Background

Cyclone Aila has been affected in the south west coastal region of Bangladesh. It was formed as a deep depression in the west central Bay. Its location was 20°22'N-26°36'N, 87°48'E-92°41'E. It has been hitting in the southwest coast in 4.30 pm to 7.45 pm on 25 May 2009. The coastal districts of Satkhira, Khulna, Bagerhat, Bhola, Barisal, Patuakhali, Borguna, Pirozpur, Jhalokathi, Jessore and their offshore islands and chars has submerged and its signal number was seven. Under the influence of the cyclone the coastal districts mainly Satkhira, Khulna, and Bagerhat has seriously affected through tidal surge. Offshore islands and chars of these districts are inundated by storm tidal surge of height 08-10 feet above normal astronomical tide. Coastal embankment has seriously damaged and overflowing. On the other hand Borguna, , Barisal, Patuakhali, Bhola, Pirozpur, Jhalokathi district and their offshore islands and Chars also submerged through the over flow. In the cyclone of AILA has seriously damaged the drinking water sources. In this area mainly drinking water sources are PSF and Rain Water Harvester (RWH). But most of these facilities has damaged due to overflow of saline water among the pond. It seems like big crisis of drinking of water. It is initially require of pure drinking water in these region at this moment.

Shushilan, a Bengali name signifying endeavours for a better future, is a local Non govt. development organization set up in 1991. The organization came into being in the face of degradation of socio-ecological resources in the southwest coastal region with specific mission to redress the declining natural resource base, livelihoods and food security of the people. To uphold human rights and gender equity for the socially disadvantaged community with the focus on women is another major concern of *Shushilan's* development initiatives. *Shushilan* is a local agro-ecology and right based NGO working in the southwest coastal region for ensuring livelihood security of the resource poor community through promoting sustainable agricultural farming system and environmental health. Wetland resource management with focus on aquaculture is one of the principal components of *Shushilan's* development initiatives in the region. *Shushilan* has specific experience on Integrated rural development programme involving; 1) Build up Peoples Organization 2) Human Rights and good governance 3) Environmental Health, Water & Sanitation 4) Sustainable agriculture farming 5) Environment friendly shrimp cultivation 6) Ownership on common resources khash land (government owned land & Ownership on common resources water bodies 7) Conservation of woman & child rights 8) Grassroots Civil Society Build up 9) Diversification of Livelihood options 10) Micro-credit & Enterpreneureship development 11) Capacity Building 12) Advocacy .

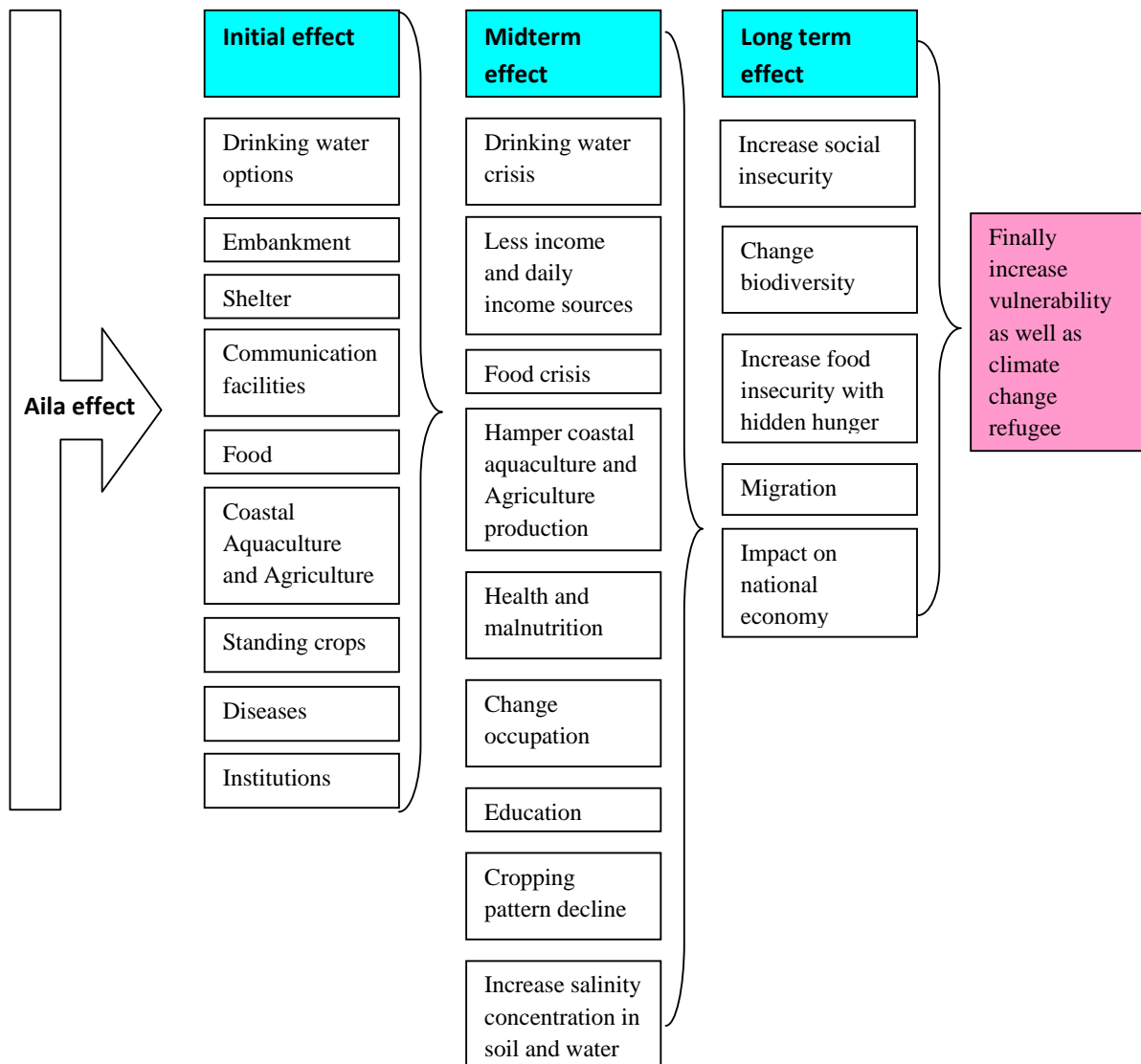
In providing the hardware of water supply, sanitation & hygiene education has been recognized as a critical disease intervention measure. WHO & UNICEF estimate that approximately 1 billion cases of diarrhea occur each year with 3.3 million deaths, mostly among children under five. However, it has been proven effective that hand washing with soap and water after using the toilet and disposing of children's feces can reduce diarrhea by 35% or more. In Shyamnagar Upazilla, 57% children (3 to 5 years of age) did not use latrine. Those children did not use latrine-defecate in open places (54%) & in the courtyard (46%). The feces of the children who defecate in any open places other than courtyard do not have any control over its disposal. More than 99% household members regularly washed hand with just water before eating food where households members frequently washed their hand with soap 29%, with mud or ash 67% and with only water 16% after defecation. (Source: CARE-RVCC project Baseline survey'2003) It is therefore, important to behavioral change by encouraging personal & domestic hygiene. Currently Bangladesh has been facing serious challenge in safe water supply and sanitation as lack of knowledge & awareness especially in the south west coastal region. The magnitudes of that challenge exacerbated by the arsenic contamination which is newly detected in 1993 for the first time & around 25% of tube wells in most areas of the country are now known to be

contaminated with natural arsenic and the increasing trend of salinity in south west coastal area due to rapid expansion of devastating shrimp cultivation.

Satkhira is the worst affected district in AILA. More than 1.5 lack people have been blocked through over flowing water in this upazilla. Regular water entrance during high tide and out in low tide due to no embankment or other protection. Already some union has affected diarrhea and other diseases outbreak. In recent news says 3 people have died through diarrhea in Jantindranagar and Sora village under Shyamnagar upazilla and more than 2000 are affected in their house. There is neither any temporary shelter nor any sufficient food, no cooked food or dry food. There was serious demand of drinking water. As these area are saline zone and more than 95% drinking water sources has been submerged through over flow of saline water. Most of the area has polluted through dead livestock or other debris. GO and NGO has taken some initiatives on emergency relief. They are distributing some dry food and drinking water but these are insufficient as per demand.

2. Present Situation with Need Assessment

Cyclone AILA has serious damaged in the coastal area of Bangladesh. Cyclone and tidal surge from AILA has mainly damaged the socioeconomic and livelihood sequence of this region. In the following diagram show this effect



Situation over view

Usually southwest coastal region has serious crisis of safe drinking water. There are serious demand of drinking water. As these area are saline zone and more than 95% drinking water sources has been submerged through over flow of saline water. Already most of the affected unions (6) have been affected diarrhea and other diseases outbreak. It is rapidly spread over in everywhere. Affected people have very limited food or no other storage food due to water logged. On the other hand regular water entrance during high tide and out in low tide due to no embankment or other protection. Most of the people have taken shelter in broken embankment but no shade. About 70% people from affected unions have already migrated just like refugee. Debris like dead cattle, dead fish, floating garbage and open latrine are always polluting the air and water. Still now water is entering in the polder area in high tide and embankment, road or other communication facilities have totally damaged hence affected people have become unable to communicate for their need.

In the worst affected Shyamnagar upazilla, GOB has taken immediate some relief distribution operation but it was too limited to their need. In this upazilla they have distributed 705.00 MT rice, 110000.00 cash taka, 2080 Kg Chira, 1260 Kg Mollases, 6150 litter water, 4496 Sari and 2017 Lungi among 12 Unions up to 31st May 2009. On the other hand some private initiatives they help to supply drinking water among the affected people in those unions.

Need assessment

Immediate effect	Long term effect
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ In this coastal region has serious safe drinking water poverty. After strong tidal surge all the drinking water options have been destroyed. As a result there is no option for safe drinking water.▪ No food or food supply due to submerge as well as have no option to get fuel wood and cooking places.▪ Diseases out break i.e. diarrhea, cholera or any other water borne diseases.▪ Shelter has damaged and no alternative options to take shelter in a place and it will create insecure for vulnerable people in disaster.▪ Still now water is aggressively entering in the polder area and embankment, road and other communication facilities has totally damaged. So that, affected people have become unable to move and communicate for their daily need.▪ Debris like dead cattle, dead fish, floating garbage and open latrine are always polluting the air and water. These create major problems and making life unhealthy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ There will less employment opportunity and they have face in different crisis due to no income sources▪ Mass migration will happen due to no crop, no food, shelter or income sources.▪ Due to massive entrance of saline water it makes saline in the soil and water. As a result there will be no option to grow crops, trees, plants, herbs instantly.▪ Bio diversity and natural improper balance will happen in this area.▪ Education will hamper due to communication, income as well as migration.

Immediate need	Long term need
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure supply of drinking water ▪ Distribute water purifying tablet and orient them about this purifying options ▪ Ensure emergency food supply ▪ Arrange latrine for Sanitation ▪ Provide temporary shelter or arrange ploythine, tent etc. ▪ Ensure medical facilities through building medical tem with medicine and saline ▪ Discharge saline water from the locality ▪ Remove debris from different places ▪ Reconstruction of embankment to protect regular access of water. ▪ Re construction of different safe and drinking water sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Construction of embankment through proper designing, planning with measuring the water level due to tidal surge. ▪ To initiate immediate Cash For Work (CFW) or Food For Work (FFW) for income or employment generate. ▪ Arrange enough cyclone shelter in different places and building community base shelter in cluster basis. ▪ Construction of Soil-forties ▪ Protect embankment cutting tendency for shrimp farming water through proper rules and regulations. ▪ Cultivate saline tolerant and short cycle agricultural crops. ▪ Long term awareness camping and prepared individual households risk reduction action plan to mitigate disaster.

3. Shushilan's activities

Pre-disaster Activities in AILA

Shushilan is mainly working this affected area. In this area there are many projects that has implemented Shushilan. In this area Shushilan is firstly starting the disaster management activities with Concern worldwide. There are union level contingency plan that has prepared by Shushilan. Also Shushilan has facilitated to made LDRRAP through local vulnerable community supported by CDMP. Beside these there were many social and technical management project that always conducted through disaster centered. In the pre disaster management activities we have always facilitated on training, coping mechanism, disaster preparedness.

1. Informed staff and aware about the cyclone status and its updated information
2. Informed and ready Union and ward level volunteer about 1200
3. Opening Information center and Control room in Shushilan Khulna Office.
4. Preparation of transport like trawler, boat, track, motorcycle
5. Disseminate AILA information among the union level vulnerable communities.
6. Communicate with UP chairman, members, PIO, Unpazilla Chairman, TNO and District Officials.

Emergency response during disaster

In the cyclone AILA Shushilan first open one control room in khulna and timely communicated with different union level staff and monitor the cyclone situation in each hour. In May 25 nights and 26 Shushilan has given shelter to the affected people in the Munshiganj training center. Shushilan has

communicated with different agencies and regular updated the cyclone situation. Taking blocked people to the cyclone shelter from village level. We have rescue the helpless affected people from Ramjannagar, Gabura, Padmapukur and Munshiganj union of Shyamnagar Upazilla. Always communicated with our field level staff, volunteer, chairman for updating cyclone and tidal surge updated status.

Emergency response after disaster

Shushilan has performed emergency relief operation activities in Khulna and Satkhira District from 26th May 2009. In this time we have distributed dry food and drinking water. In that time also rescue some blocked vulnerable people from severe affected villages. After that Shushilan has also distributed food and nonfood items in Satkhira, Khulna, Bagerhat and Bhola districts through Shushilan own disaster fund as well as some donor funds.

District	Upazilla	# of Union covered	No of HH	Package items	Per Package quantity	Funded by
Satkhira	Shyamnagar	3	1850	Dry food package	Chira 3 kg Muri 1 kg Candle 1 Medicine ORS 02 pac	Shushilan's disaster funded
		4	2400 HH per day	Regular 12000 litter drinking water supply since 26 May,2009	5 litter per households	Shushilan's disaster funded
		8	7000 HH	Dry food package	Chira Molasses ORS Candle Gas lighter Biscuit	Concern worldwide
		2	500 HH	Dry food package	Water 12 Lit Chira 2 kg, Wheat 4 Molasses 400 g ORS 18 pack WPT-5	PripTrust
		1	180 HH	Drinking water support	Water 4 Liter	
		1	1000 HH	Food package	Potato-1 kg Pulse-1 kg Salt -0.5Kg Belching-250 gm ORS -5 no. Flagil Tab 5 Tetracycline 5 Water 5 litter	The Art of Living Foundation and Shushilan
		2	3030 HH	Family kit box	1 Kit box/HH	Unicef
		12	9750 HH	Polythine sheet	1 sheet/HH	
		3	3250	Food and non food package (On going activities)	Rice- 30 kg Pulse- 4 Kg Oil - 2 liter Salt - 1, Suji 1 kg Sugar 1 kg ORS 10 pack Soap 3	Concern World wide

District	Upazilla	# of Union covered	No of HH	Package items	Per Package quantity	Funded by
	Assasuni	2	2400 HH	12000 litter drinking water supply	5 litter per households	Shushilan's disaster funded
Khulna	Dacope	2	1500 HH	Food Package	Rice – 3Kg Pulse – 1 Kg Salt – 1 Kg ORS – 3 Pack Water – 5 Lt	Jointly GrameenPhone and Shushilan
	Koyra	2	1000 HH			
Bagerhat	Sharonkhola	2	1500 HH			
Bhola	Charfasion Manpura Daulatkhan Char Tajimuddin	21	11776	Family kit box 2040 Polythine sheet	1 Kit box/HH 1 sheet/HH	

Medical Camp Support Activities

District	Upazilla	Union name	No of patients	Duration	Remarks
Satkhira	Shyamnagar	Gabura, Padmapukur and Ramjannagar	1164	3 Days	Free treatment, primary treatment, advise and medicine support. Medical camp has jointly organized by GrameenPhone Ltd & Shushilan.
Khulna	Dacope	Kamerkhola, Suterkhali	978	2 Days	
	Koyra	Koyra Sadar, Mahessaripur	970	2 Days	
Bagerhat	Sharonkhola	Rayanda and Sutarkhali	769	3 Days	

4. Conclusion

Usually coastal part of Bangladesh is high risk zone for cyclone, tidal surge, embankment erosion, and salinity as well as drinking water sources. These hazards are affected almost in every year. Cyclone AILA has been affected in the coastal region of Bangladesh and this area has also affected super cyclone Sidr just few months ago. So every year such hazard creates disaster within the coastal vulnerable community. As a result it is require following comprehensive disaster management strategy. We have to centralize the disaster issues in our regular development activities. It is needed to develop ward with union level volunteer and community based shelter home. In a long term view it will require sea wall to avoid such tidal surge. We should follow the environmental law and order is to maintain the coastal sustainable environment. On the other hand we have to build up all type of disaster management capacity among the vulnerable community.