

Activity Report
On
Volunteer Management for Site Selection of UNICEF supported
DPHE Climate-Resilient Response Program for Eastern Flood in
Chattogram Division 2024



January-February
2025

Store Circle
Department of Public Health Engineering

1. Introduction

In response to the extensive damage caused by the Eastern Floods of 2024, UNICEF, in collaboration with the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), is implementing the "UNICEF supported DPHE Climate-Resilient Response Program for Eastern Flood in Chattogram Division 2024," also known as the Eastern Flood Response (2nd Phase). This program is being executed in the most severely affected districts of Cumilla, Noakhali, and Feni. The program focuses on identifying the most vulnerable and disadvantaged individuals and households in urgent need of water and sanitation services. Prior to the program's implementation, volunteers were recruited to assist with site selection, ensuring a thorough and accurate identification of beneficiaries. This process successfully led to the selection of the appropriate villages and unions, and the program is now actively underway.

2. Program Description

The program was implemented in four selected upazilas across the districts, which are:

- Brahmanpara, Cumilla
- Chauddogram, Cumilla
- Chatkhil, Noakhali
- Parshuram, Feni

In each upazila, the program began with a one-day orientation session for 16 volunteers. Following the orientation, the volunteers worked for a period of at least 10 to 15 days to create a social map and identify the most vulnerable households and populations.

3. Orientation Program

At the onset of the activity, a one-day orientation program was organized for the volunteers, where key stakeholders such as UNICEF representatives, the Upazila Executive Officer (UNO), DPHE officials, and employees were present. The workshop focused on equipping the volunteers with the necessary skills to conduct social mapping and select households. The volunteers were trained on how to determine which village within a union to select, based on key criteria.

The process involved walking across the selected village, visiting important locations (such as mosques, temples, markets, and educational institutions), and interacting with the local community to assess the current state of housing, infrastructure, water supply, and sanitation systems. The information gathered during these visits was used to create a social map, which visually represented the village's conditions.

Following this, the volunteers were trained on how to inspect the identified houses on-site, fill in the prescribed data collection forms in hard copy, and upload the data into the Kobo software for digital storage.

The objectives of the training program were as below-

- To introduce the mechanics and the volunteers about UNICEF supported Eastern Flood Response-2
- To train up the mechanics and the volunteers how to work in a group and communicate with the community.
- To train up the volunteers how to prepare social mapping, collect initial data and fill up data collection form for water sources, tubewell repair and twin pit latrine.
- To train up the mechanics how to collect final site selection data of water sources, tubewell repair and twin pit latrine.
- To train up the mechanics and the volunteers how to upload data in KOBACOLLECT software.

4. Activities of the program

Initial Site Selection

Firstly, the volunteers were divided into two groups for the selected villages. Each group conducted a walk-through of the village, visiting key locations from one end to the other. The volunteers selected initial households, collected primary data, prepared a social map, and uploaded the map into the Kobo system.

Then the number of groups increased to 8, with four groups assigned to each village. The volunteers continued collecting data using the prescribed data collection forms and uploaded the information to the Kobo system in real-time from the selected sites.

Final Site Selection

The DPHE mechanics collected the initial data collection forms from the volunteers. They then inspected the initially selected sites, collected data from the final sites using the prescribed forms, and uploaded the information to the Kobo system simultaneously.

During the final site selection, Sub Assistant Engineers (SAE) from DPHE, and Mr. Ershadul Haque, WASH Consultant from UNICEF, were present to oversee and guide the process of selecting the sites for the community-based water supply schemes and other essential facilities.

5. Outcomes

The following outcomes were achieved from the training session and field activities-

- All of the participants were able to upload data in KOBO and understand the process of preparing social map.
- Social maps were prepared perfectly and uploaded in KOBO by Volunteers.
- Initial sites were selected, collected data in data collection form and uploaded in KOBO by volunteers.
- From the initial Sites, after proper inspection and thorough investigation from DPHE and UNICEF, final sites were selected and data was uploaded in KOBO collect form by DPHE field level officials.

6. Challenges

- **KOBO Installation Issues:** KOBO could not be installed on some phones, and the project could not be added, preventing some participants from working effectively.
- **Tubewell Repair Sites:** Difficulty in finding suitable sites for tubewell repair, as the community showed little interest in raising tubewell platforms.
- **Twin Pit Latrine Site Selection:** A greater number of suitable sites for twin pit latrines were identified than allocated, making it challenging to select the most suitable site among the initially chosen ones.

7. Way Forward:

- **KOBO Installation:** Ensure all devices are properly configured and tested before field activities to avoid installation issues.
- **Community Engagement:** Increase community awareness and engagement regarding the importance of raising tubewell platforms to improve water accessibility.
- **Site Selection Process:** Review and refine the site selection criteria for twin pit latrines to better match the available sites and allocated resources.

8. Conclusion:

The UNICEF-supported DPHE Climate-Resilient Response Program for the Eastern Floods (2nd Phase) has made significant progress in addressing the urgent water and sanitation needs of vulnerable communities in Cumilla, Noakhali, and Feni districts. Through the active involvement of volunteers and DPHE mechanics, the program successfully conducted social mapping, initial site selection, and final site selection for water supply schemes and sanitation facilities.

The one-day orientation program effectively equipped volunteers with the necessary skills to prepare social maps, collect data, and use Kobo software for data entry. Despite challenges, such as issues with Kobo installation and difficulties in site selection for tubewell repairs and twin pit latrines, the program achieved its objectives. Volunteers and DPHE officials were able to complete the data collection process and upload information to the Kobo system, creating a reliable digital database for future interventions.

Overall, the program's outcomes demonstrate a strong foundation for improving water and sanitation services in the affected areas, with successful collaboration between UNICEF, DPHE, and the local community. Moving forward, addressing the challenges identified will enhance the effectiveness of future activities and contribute to the program's long-term success.



1. Training program of volunteers



2. Starting village visit with some community members.



3. Preparing social map



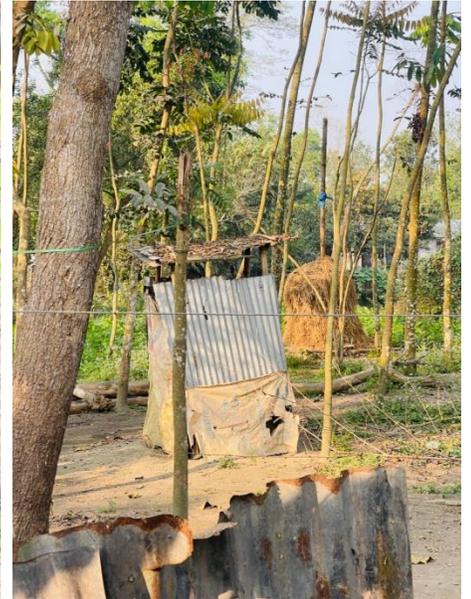
4. Prepared social map



5. Collecting Initial Data & Kobo



7. Collecting Final Data & Kobo



6. Finally selected site for latrine



Orientation Program For Volunteer For Site Selection On Unicef Supported DPHE Climate-Resilient Response Program For Eastern Flood Affected Chatkhil Upazila, Noakhli District in Chattogram Divison.

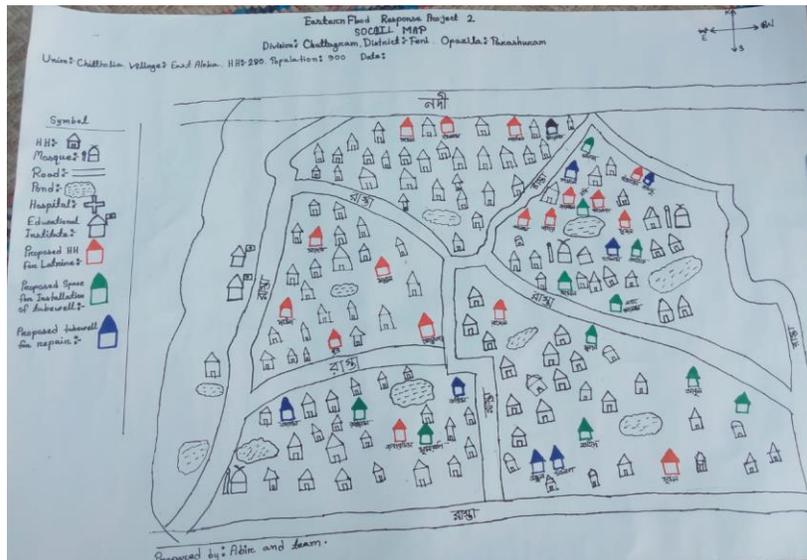
প্রধান অতিথি: **জনাব মিজানুর রহমান** উপজেলা নির্বাহী অফিসার, চাটখিল, নোয়াখালী।

বাস্তবায়নে:- জনস্বাস্থ্য প্রকৌশল অধিদপ্তর, চাটখিল, নোয়াখালী।

সহযোগিতায়:- **UNICEF Bangladesh.**



9. Site Selection Meeting (Chatkhil)



10. Prepared Social map in Parshuram



11. Site Selection Visit in Chatkhil Upazila