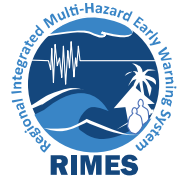




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January-March 2013

PROGRAM UPDATE

Piloting of Bay of Bengal Cyclones and Depression tracks and landfall for enhanced accuracy and improved lead time for disaster risk reduction in Nobo Jibon Program areas, Bangladesh

{Due to political unrest in Bangladesh, we were not able to conduct our regular activities in the country}

MONITORING OF DEPRESSIONS, CYCLONE FORMATION AND TRACKING

Field visits

January and February, 2013

Field visits for site selection and installation of tide gauges - Hizla Upazila & Galachipa Upazila, Barisal

RIMES, together with BMD, has conducted a pre-assessment to finalize the tide gauge installation near the estuary. The two sites selected are 1) Galachipa and 2) Hizla, in Barisal. RIMES staff has visited 5 locations to finalize the installation of the tide gauge on these two sites. RIMES will install the tide gauge under the Nobo Jibon program. The gauge will be handed over to BIWTA, the responsible authority in this regard.



A jetty at Hizla river where the river has become narrow and waterless



An existing BIWTA tide gauge station at Galachipa

DRR meeting at SC Field Office, Barisal:

January, 2013

On the very first week of January 2013, RIMES staff visited SC's Barisal regional office to attend the Regional Quarterly Meeting of DRR. RIMES presented the project activities and the application of the Cyclone Tracking Piloting Program to all DRR managers of SC Nobo Jibon Program.



Presentation at SC DRR meeting

Field visit of RIMES staff to meet the volunteers:

January, February and March 2013

RIMES field staff visited four pilot areas, following regular activities on capacity building. During the field visits, RIMES staff met 8 volunteers to solve problems related to regular data posting and coordination.

Program Participation:

RIMES field staff participated in the Disaster and Need Assessment Training (e.g. RIR, MIRA, RENA), organized by SC, as well as in the Mid-term Evaluation Meeting, organized by Tango.

Ongoing pre-impact assessment tool development and capacity building

Customization of the development of DSS (Decision Support System Tools) to undertake pre-impact assessment

RIMES planned to conduct the training on DSS but due to political unrest, it could not be arranged. We request to shift these activities for the next quarter.

PILOT APPLICATION OF TECHNOLOGY

Inundation modeling

RIMES is working on the development of an inundation model using MRI storm surge model, which will be handed over to BMD in July.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES: April- June 2013

- Training on Decision Support System at the community level
- Installation of the tide gauge
- Focus Group Discussions (FGD) at the community level