

# JAN- MARCH 2012

## 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

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### CONCURRENT MONITORING OF DEPRESSIONS, CYCLONE FORMATION AND TRACKING

#### **Continuation of customized WRF model to generate location specific EWS & verification system**

*January 2012*

RIMES meso-scale modeling product developed through customizing Weather Research Forecasting (WRF) Model products continues to send all pilot areas and a feedback mechanism has been established through e-mail on the observations. The three days precipitation and wind speed forecasts is an experimental forecasts to generate locations specific risk information. These product may useful for daily weather observation as well as to bring a momentum to the volunteers and local authority on regular interactions and communications.

RIMES also planned to handover manual rain gauge and a mobile set to 15 volunteers to continuous monitoring the observed rainfall situation and development of risk thresholds at each community level. The RIMES simple rain gauge has been sent to BMD for an approval and check the compatibility with their system.

The data assimilation experiment is going on at RIMES. RIMES also continuously monitor the depression in the BoB and with any possible threat will be disseminated to SC and BMD.



Community based rain monitoring system

## PRE-IMPACT ASSESSMENT TOOL DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING

### Inception Workshop and Training on "Piloting of Cyclone Early Warning at the Community level"

08-09 February

An inception workshop and training on piloting of cyclone early warning system was conducted on February 8 and 9, 2012 at CODEC Training Center-Patuakhali. Deputy Commissioner-Patuakhali inaugurated the inception workshop. Resources persons from BMD, FFWC, CPP and RIMES conducted the training. A total 35 participants form SC, IPs, CPP, Union Parishad, Upazila Parishad, CPP, Health, Agriculture, elites attended the workshop. The training and workshop identified local level risk, need assessment for the community to enhance early warning system. Some of the decision that were made during the training and discussions with the participants were:

- RIMES will provide rain gauges in four unions to observed accurate rainfall and enhance the forecasts capacity.
- Selection & training of Rain Gauge to the volunteers.
- Hazard assessment/Base line survey at four union
- Meeting with UDMC, UZ, VDC, Volunteers, CPP, local elites at the respective Union level etc.
- Facilitate coordination with CPP & UDMC.



### Site Profiling for Cox' bazar

March 2012

RIMES and BMD team together with CARE local offices conducted the site profiling and baseline survey at Jalia Palong Union regarding cyclone tracking and land fall. At the same time an early warning system audit has been completed with the local government bodies.

A questionnaires survey was conducted to each local government to evaluate their strength and weakness to become hazard ready community. RIMES has developed an evaluation system to certify the community to be prepared for any disaster and its requirements.

A survey has been completed on the livelihood activities on the community people (Small Scale) as well. The report is at the development stage.



**EWS auditing with the local administration**

### **Continuation Data Collection for Decision Support System Development**

*Jan- March 2012*

Data has been collected for historical cyclone hazards, impacts, hydro-meteorological data (i.e. rainfall, wind speed, temperature) and other socio-economic data from various agencies (i.e. WARPO, BMD, FFWC, etc). The DSS is in the developing stage and will finalize in later stage.

## **PILOT APPLICATION OF TECHNOLOGY**

### **Training on Cyclone EWS for Local Government and NGO**

*March 2012*

RIMES has organized a training workshop on cyclone early warning system in the Jalia Palong Union Parishad with Local Government bodies, CPP and CARE Bangladesh staff. The training workshop discussed on the cyclone forecasting system, enhance coordination among UDMC and CPP; establishment a system to identify the local threshold of meteorological issue; establish a local government bodies volunteer to aware the people on signal system, emergency activities and disaster preparedness.

### **Facilitation with Other Government Stakeholders on Coastal Inundation Forecasting System**

*26 February 2012*

RIMES and BMD organized a one day discussions sessions with the national stakeholders on the data sharing and necessity for the coastal inundation forecasting system. A cooperative work and strategy is required for building improved operational forecast and warning capability for coastal inundation, combining extreme waves, surges and river flooding events, that can be sustained by the responsible national agencies work together. A total 12 national organizations attend the meeting and form a national technical group

for the coastal inundation forecasts generation. As coastal inundation required data from global system as well and regional system. The World Meteorological Organization will provide technical support to establish the system under WMO guidelines.

### **Moderating EWS session in the International Learning Conference “ECB Inter-Active**

*Feb 28-29*

RIMES has moderated the EWS session of the International Learning Conference “ECB Inter-Active on February 28-29 2012. The conference shared the ECB Project's learning to broad community. RIMES shared the EWS facilities in the region to the audience.

### **TRAVEL**

RIMES staff has been travel to Bangladesh and pilot sites to conduct training and assessment with SC, Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD) and discussions with Cyclone Preparedness Program (CPP).

### **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES: APR- JUN 2012**

- RIMES team will visit Noltona & Lata Chapli union on April 18 & 19, 2012 to discuss on the emergency operation system facilities and requirements. RIMES has planned to showcase 1-2 union as model with all facilities available for emergency communication.
- Meeting will be organized with pilot Union representatives & local CPP officials/volunteers coordination and EWS system requirement.
- Continuous monitoring on Bay of Bengal to observe the formation of any low pressure/depression
- As requested by SC, RIMES will send Ago mate seven days forecast & monthly rainfall outlook forecast from BMD to SC regional office at Barisal
- Continue the development of DSS (decision support Tools) to understand risk information.
- Finalization of Site profiling assessment report
- Placement/setting of 12 Rain gauges in four unions and training to Volunteers (12 volunteers + others) on Rain gauge operation system
- One pilot union UP Chairman will attend the national monsoon to share their views on community level understanding on EWS.