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Strengthening Emergency Preparedness and Building Infrastructure for Disaster  
Vulnerable Communities in Bangladesh (STEP & BuildIn Project)

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# SITUATION UPDATE

NORTHEASTERN FLOOD IN SHUNAMGANJ & SYLHET

Location: Derai, Sunamganj, Report # 1 | 19 May, 2022 | Time: 12:32 PM

**Report prepared by:**

Md. Abdur Rahman,  
Project Coordinator, STEP & BuildIn Project  
Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh



Field situational information provided by:

**Action for Social Development – ASD**



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## General Situation Overview

The northeastern part of Bangladesh is experiencing flash floods for the third time in the year 2022 where it had been predicted that the early arrival of the monsoon caused and rained heavily in the area and adjacent Indian States-Asam, Meghalaya, and part of the West Bengal are the main causes of this recent flash flood that have caused huge flooding in the mighty area in the northeastern districts, particularly in Sylhet and Sunamganj. 72% of the total area of the Sylhet division is now underwater. The situation may further worsen within the next 24 hours due to flash floods from adjacent Indian border states.

DKH-funded **“Strengthening Emergency Preparedness and Building Infrastructure for Disaster Vulnerable Communities in Bangladesh”**, is being implemented by Action for Social Development (ASD), led by CCDB from 2021 to November 2024 envisioned to improve the lives and livelihoods of climate and disaster vulnerable communities in Bangladesh. Derai is an implementation area of the project under ASD coordination. Due to the devastating flood situation in the area and in letting the flood water into the office campus, the ASD field office has been declared closed for the last couple of days.

## Humanitarian Situation in Derai Upazila

Following are key humanitarian situations updated from ASD field team at Derai:

- In the current flood situation, Derai Upazila has been affected a lot, people passing a depressed situation worsening the flood situation over the last few days.
- There is no electricity in the locality for the last two days with a very limited mobile network found
- Many people have left their houses and staying now in temporary shelters. Many of the govt. and private, NGOs office announced close due to inundation of office campus and entering water into the office room.
- A total of 215 villages under 9 Unions have been affected by the concurrent flash flood in the Upazila that affected a total of 40,300 households covering a total of 221,550 people (Male-117,520 and female-104,030)

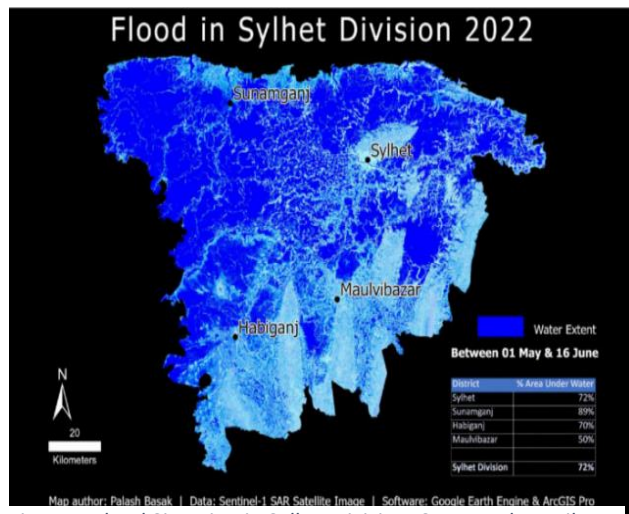


Figure 1 Flood Situation in Sylhet Division; Source: The Daily Star



Figure 2 Flood Damages thousands of Houses in Derai  
Photo taken by: A Rahman

- About 95% of houses out of total have been affected by flooding where the maximum of the houses are inundated with flood water
- About 85% of households are drinking unsafe drinking water due to inundation of their source of safe water
- About 85% of households are under unsafe sanitation facilities and many of them are doing open defecation in the flood water
- A total of 85 primary and high schools are used as the primary shelter providing shelter for 132,912 affected people, among them mostly are women, children, and adolescents, where all education activities are now closed
- 60% of total households suffered from the acute food crisis, which found a hike in the price of necessary goods, for example, the price of a gas cylinder rises to 4,000.
- Acute shortage of food for livestock animals, cattle and reported that many ducks have been lost due to flooding

Source: Field level situation update by ASD

### Recommendation

As mentioned above, people are in huge humanitarian needs due to flood, having with a shortage of food and other NFI in the houses and temporary shelters covering safe water, and sanitation facilities, there is emergent to trigger the humanitarian response in coordination with govt. other pertinent NGOs who are working in the locality.

### New Interventions/tasks planned

**New Intervention:** Following are some new Interventions/tasks that should be taken in the recent future:

- Collection of SOS Form: Approximate Loss and Manage an Emergency Requirement
- Collection of D-Form from Upazila Parishad.
- Mobilize funds and need assessment for emergency response as per budget availability
- Make draft emergency response strategies and make a list of beneficiaries before responding
- Coordination with relevant govt. department, other NGO/INGO who are working there
- Selecting the Item of relief and coordinating with other NGOs to avoid the overlapping
- Communicate with local vendors, collecting necessary information on price and stock of food & NFI
- Should consider baby food and pregnant women's needs in the relief package in the time of responding



Figure 1 Figure 1 People are in huge sufferings due onset flash flood: Photo © A Rahman