

# TOWARDS URBAN RESILIENCE

## THE RISKS

In Bangladesh, **55.18** million, **34.28%** of the population live in urban areas (World Bank, 2015). With the existing growth rate of **2.8%**, the country's urban population will reach **79** million or **42%** of the population by 2035. They live with various hazards both at home and workplace. The level of risk is further exacerbated by growing trend of climate migrants, gender-based violence, limited access to basic services and weak implementation of legislative provisions related to resilience. All these factors combine to make the urban poor increasingly vulnerable to shocks and stresses. The urban poor are most exposed to and least able to cope with these risks.



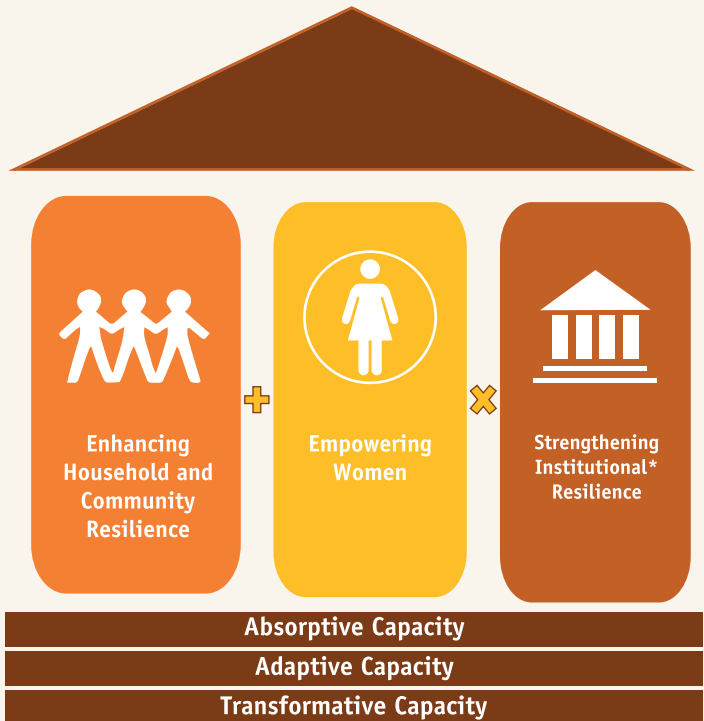
**BUILDING RESILIENCE OF THE URBAN POOR (*BRUP*) PROJECT**

# OUR APPROACHES TO THE PROBLEM

## BUILDING RESILIENCE OF THE URBAN POOR (BRUP)

PROJECT IS CONTRIBUTING TO  
**COMMUNITIES'**  
EFFORTS TO INCREASE  
**RESILIENCE BY**  
INTEGRATING CLIMATE  
CHANGE ADAPTATION  
(CCA) AND DISASTER  
RISK REDUCTION (DRR) KEEPING  
**WOMEN AT THE**  
CENTER. THE PROJECT  
IS BEING IMPLEMENTED IN  
GAZIPUR CITY CORPORATION

Enhanced resilience of 6 urban communities and 3 institutions reaching 8,000 individuals who can prepare for, mitigate, respond to, and recover from shocks and stresses.



\*Fire Service and Civil Defence

\*Gazipur City Corporation

\*Ward Disaster Management Committee

# WHAT WE DO?



## Enhancing Household and Community Resilience



## Empowering women



## Strengthening Institutional Resilience

Community analyzes risk and resources and develops 'Risk Reduction Action Plan' for implementation



Community-led garbage management and safe water supply system



Improved community capacity in disaster management in collaboration with public and private agencies and access to resources



Women and girls promote resilience practices through learning and sharing sessions



Financial inclusion and alternative livelihood support to the most vulnerable women



Forum Theater and mock drill for mass awareness



Develop Urban Community Volunteers (boys+girls) to serve community and extended force of FSCD.



Capacity building of community and targeted institutions

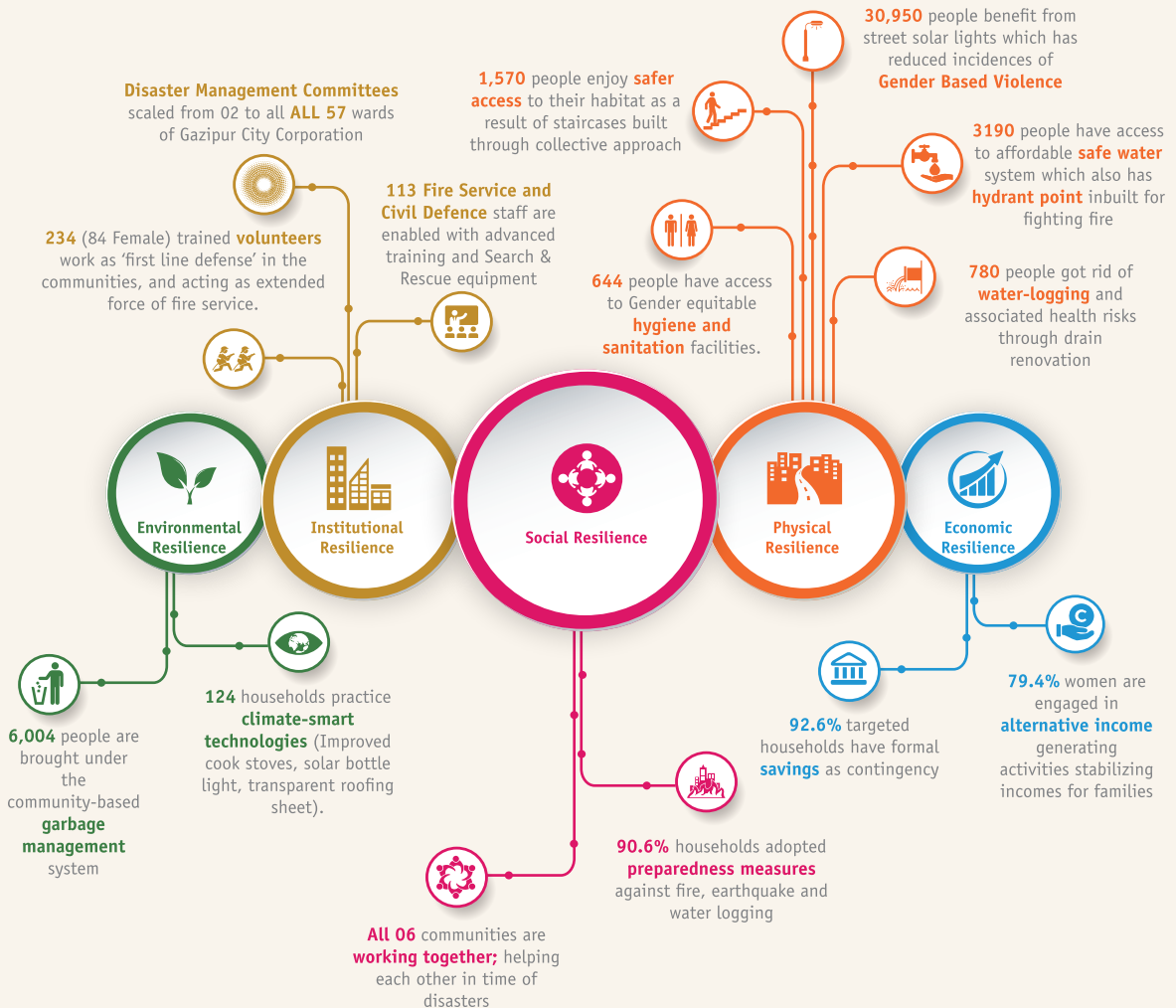


Strengthening Ward Disaster Management Committee at ward and City Corporation level.



# ACHIEVEMENTS

## 'In different dimensions of resilience'



# SIGNS OF RESILIENCE



## Voices From Communities



### Women are talking and being listened to

"During risk analysis I and other women, were asked separately to list community hazards. Earthquakes and fire are dangerous; but poor street lighting and insecurity are just as dangerous for us women and girls. That is how darkness was included as hazard for the first time."

-Rokeya Begum, CDC Secretary

### Leadership

"In the recent fire incident, we called the Fire Service, while the community volunteers responded immediately with water, sand and wet cloths, and initiating evacuation and rescue.

Afterwards, the CDC mobilized communities to provide emergency food and shelter. Later, we contacted district relief office, getting their relief response for the first time in our community."

-Sufia Begum, CDC Chairperson

### Access to Financial Services

"Fire burned my everything, except the 10,000 taka I had saved at the bank, which was my sole support for recovery."

-Ritu, Fire affected, Uttar Tetultola.

# OVERCOMING IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES



**Lack of cohesion**



Social mobilization using participatory tools with deliberate engagement of women and girls helps building trust amongst communities.



**Threats of eviction due to land tenure pattern**



Pro-poor advocacy with Govt. for better housing and other critical physical facilities; however more needs to be done.



**Inconsistency in leadership role hampers regular activities.**



Develop working relationship with Chief Executive at City Corporation and elected representatives at ward level.



**Urban people are time-poor**



Adjust meeting schedules to community's needs

# MINDSHARE AND INSPIRING OTHERS THROUGH

Disseminating news/articles  
in national & international media

Collaboration & Synergies  
with CARE' B projects  
and other 4 Country  
offices

Hosting visitors from home and abroad.  
Approximate 60 international & 40 national professionals  
from Govt., I/NGO, donors, academicians visited the project

Arranging advocacy events  
jointly with relevant platforms/ networks

Participating in  
global accelerators  
competitions within  
CARE & beyond

Participatory community planning having interface with institutional planning process at different levels is critical to enhance resilience.

Contexts and Conditions of the slums built on public and private land are not same which requires different approaches and strategies.

Systematic engagement of women in various platforms is essential to build cohesion in urban setting.

## LESSONS LEARNED

Separating men, women is critical during prioritization of hazards and development of gender equitable plan.

Solid community mobilization is critical for building resilience; requires more time and contextualized tools for urban.

Engagement of relevant stakeholders is pre-requisite to build urban resilience.

**“Women are not just helpless victims; They are a strong force for resilience”**

### CARE Bangladesh

RAOWA Complex (Level 7-8), VIP Road, Mohakhali, Dhaka -1206, Bangladesh  
PABX: +(880) 2 9889009 Fax: +(880) 2 9118347,  
Email: [bgdinfo@care.org](mailto:bgdinfo@care.org)

**C&A Foundation**



[www.carebangladesh.org](http://www.carebangladesh.org)