

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT IN 2021

In-person Training of ARISE Co-Researchers

Title: Co-researcher selection and training on GIS Mapping

Date: 26.01.2021 (Dholpur, Shyampur) and 27.01.2021 (Kallyanpur)

Facilitator: Imran Hossain Mithu

Attendees: 6 co-researchers of ARISE (Shyampur- Tanbir, Tumpa; Dholpur- Sweety, Jummon & Kallyanpur- Billal, Esha)

Six co-researchers (2 from each site - one female and one male) have been selected from three study sites. They were given one day basic training at the end of January 2021 on GIS mapping using a mobile app. After the basic training, they have started collecting GIS location coordinates of different important infrastructures and locations in their settlements in February 2021. One researcher from the ARISE Bangladesh team, who is trained on GIS mapping, regularly provided them on-job training and troubleshooting support. The group virtually meets once a week and shares their reflections. On 9th February 2021, one face-to-face reflexivity session with all six co-researchers was organized in February 2021 at JPGSPH office where they shared their experiences, the challenges they faced while collecting data and also made some suggestions. The co-researchers and researchers also collectively made some decisions and plans. The reflexivity session guideline co-developed by ARISE Hub partners was also pilot tested in that session and the feedback was shared with LSTM and Kenya researchers.

In-Person Training of CDOs- ARISE Responsive Fund

Title: Health Hygiene and COVID awareness training for CDO and Ward committee leaders

Date: 28.03.2021 (Rajshahi) and 29.03.2021 (Khulna)

Facilitator: The training officers of BRAC UDP

Attendees: Councilors, Councilor of Khulna named Shamsuzzaman Miah and the Councilor of Rajshahi Mohammed Arman Ali were also present along with CDO members, CDO presidents and vice presidents.

Two training sessions have been conducted in Rajshahi (Baze kazla) and Khulna (Greenland) to spread awareness about COVID-19. Through these sessions, 60 (30 at each site) Community Development Organizations (CDO) members and Ward committee leaders were equipped with knowledge to combat the situation. The trainers from BRAC UDP have taken a half day session with the 60 personnel to train them regarding personal hygiene, community hygiene, physical distancing, wand washing techniques, health, and nutrition during COVID-19 and so on. Besides, as the leader of their respective communities, they have been aware about their roles and responsibilities.

Virtual Training on Using R software for Statistical Analysis

i) Learning statistical analysis using R software

Date: March 10,2021

Facilitator: Proloy Barua - an Assistant Scientist at James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University (BRAC JPGSPH) has been facilitating the training since March'21

Attendees: Few ARISE team members – Imran Hossain, Tasmiah Selim (former) and Afsana Yeamin

The training has been conducted once in a week where the trainer Proloy barua discussed and gave hands on experience on R software, statistical analysis, data management, data cleaning etc.

ii) Training sessions with data enumerators: The research team arranged nine days long quantitative data collection training with 33 data enumerators in January 2021 for baseline research. In March 2021 data collection was completed in 1-10 FDMN camps and four wards in host communities, Rajapalong and Palong Khali union, Ukhiya, Cox’s Bazar. The research team conducted day-long discussion sessions with the enumerators to record the challenges and feedback related to the qualitative and quantitative research.



iii) Training session with Youth Volunteers (YVs) and Community workshop: Project implementation partner Centre for Peace and Justice (CPJ), BRAC University developed a training module on COVID-19 Preparedness and Response for Youth Volunteers. BRAC JPGSPH shared the research findings and indicators with CPJ to develop a compact training module. CPJ organized three days of separated training sessions with twenty YVs from FDMN and ten YVs from host communities in January 2021. Youth volunteers facilitated workshops to raise awareness and preparedness on the COVID-19 pandemic among the MVGs in FDMN and the host community. CPJ is also in the process of partnerships with five Community Based Organizations (CBOs) in host communities and 10 organizations in FDMN camps. This partnership aims to provide support for the organization's capacity development to COVID-19 responses.



“Contact Tracing & Case Monitoring App” Development, Training of Community Health Workers (CHWs) of BRAC HCMP and Implementation of the Contact Tracing Activities

A Contact tracing and case monitoring app was developed and contextualized by the project partners in January 2021. The app was developed with the aim of screening individuals in order to identify suspected COVID-19 cases, close contacts, and high risk population groups. The app was designed in such a way that community awareness can be raised in both the communities addressing the existing myths and misconceptions with regard to COVID-19. In addition, BRAC CHWs tried to explore the effect of COVID-19 on mental health and well-being of people and

provided advices to them on how to reduce worry and stress in this situation through an additional feature in this app.

A three-day long training session for the CHWs was organized by BRAC HCMP from 24th to 26th January 2021 in Kutupalong BRAC office, Ukhiya, Cox’s Bazar. A total of 64 BRAC CHWs and 6 Field facilitators attended the training. BRAC JPGSPH research team members conducted the training sessions on the newly developed and contextualized “Contact tracing and case monitoring app” for easy implementation in both the communities. In addition, different aspects of COVID- 19 including symptoms and preventive measures were discussed with them, so that they can contribute in raising community awareness.

Implementation of the COVID-19 contact tracing activities started on 1st February 2021 and continued till 15th May 2021. A total of 410,121 individuals in 10 Rohingya camps and 6 unions from the host community were screened through this app in 4 months.



Community Stakeholder Workshop in Cox’s Bazar

A community stakeholder workshop was organized by the BRAC JPGSPH project team on 24th February 2021 in Kutupalong, Ukhiya engaging the direct beneficiaries and stakeholders of the project. A total of 15 pregnant women, lactating mothers and adolescent girls attended the workshop. The research project details and its different activities (contact tracing app and the upcoming MNCH app) were shared and discussed with the community level stakeholders to motivate them to be a part of it and take the services. They shared their views regarding maternal and child health services, sexual and reproductive health, and overall service seeking with us. The discussions gave the research team the needed insight to implement the project successfully in a focused manner.

Training of Field Research Assistants and Field Supervisors for Baseline Quantitative Data Collection in Cox’s Bazar

Date: 6-11 June 2021

An intensive training was organized from 6th to 11th June 2021 in Cox’s Bazar to build the capacity of 24 field research assistants (FRAs) and 2 field supervisors for collecting the baseline survey data. The survey questionnaire was developed based on the available literature on the topic and the findings of the qualitative data (mentioned above). Each and every aspect of the questionnaire along with research aims and objectives were shared with the field research assistants. The survey tool was discussed for the first 3



days, followed by 2 day of field pretesting under the supervision of the research team. Feedback and suggestions from the field research assistants were also sought in order to finalize the questionnaire.

Quantitative data will be collected from a total of 3,148 participants (pregnant women, lactating mothers, mothers of under 5 children and adolescent girls residing in the Rohingya camps and host community) in Cox's Bazar.

Training on Tools for SONAR Global: COVID -19 Vulnerability Assessment (VA) in Bangladesh

Participants: 9 (Research Assistants)

Duration: 2 weeks

Date: 21 March – 01 April 2021

Venue: BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH), BRAC University

Facilitators:

- *Dr. Nahitun Naher*, Assistant director, BRAC JPGSPH.
- *Mir Raihanul Islam*, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.
- *Samiun Nazrin Bente Kamal Tune*, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.
- *Dr. Bushra Zarin Islam*, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

A two-week-long training was organised for the field team at BRAC JPGSPH. The training consisted of an overview of the SoNAR-Global project, research methodology, research ethics, and extensive discussion on COVID -19 Vulnerability Assessment tools. The training also included participatory discussion, role-playing, mock-tests, and pre-testing. End-of-training debriefings and necessary feedback, suggestions, and guidance were provided by the core research team.

Key Stakeholders Online Engagement Meetings on Translating Actionable Strategies into Evidence-informed Waterlogging and Waste Management Policies for Dhaka City

Date: 1 March 2021

A workshop was held March 1st 2021 on how to embed actionable strategies into waterlogging and waste management policies, linked with access to health and equity in Dhaka city. It consisted of an 1.5 hour interactive meeting held via Zoom. High-level policy professionals from governmental organisations were invited to attend, as well as researchers from the Pathways to Equitable Cities project from BRAC University and their project partners from King's College London and Imperial College London. The session started with a welcome speech from Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean, BRAC JPGSPH followed by introductory remarks by Prof Zahidul Quayyum, Director, Research BRAC JPGSPH and PI of the Pathways to Equitable Healthy Cities Project. The workshop aimed to present four intervention-based solutions around waste management and waterlogging to relevant stakeholders and get feedback on which interventions would take priority, fit into existing policy plans and potential barriers to their implementation. Pathways researchers started off the workshop presenting four potential solutions anchored in the most recent state of the art data collection and analysis of Dhaka city's waterlogging and waste management issues. These issues had been validated by societal partners during previous workshops, held in September 2020. Workshop participants were subsequently asked to prioritise interventions, elaborate if they'd fit in their work screen and what challenges they experience or anticipate.

The four cross cutting interventions presented at the workshop that could start addressing some of the waste management and waterlogging issues were, namely:

1. Integrated waterlogging mitigating waste to energy pipeline
2. Establishment of an integrated real time control system (RTCS) for monitoring and regulation of waste management and waterlogging activities
3. Establishment of a central monitoring cell/umbrella agency for monitoring and governance of implementing agencies
4. Introduction of social media and mobile phone based campaign to raise public awareness and improve knowledge of proper waste management at household and community level

Pathways researchers aimed to develop the much necessary cross connect between implementable policy scenarios with evidence-based research components through this intervention focused policy workshop. All the workshop participants mentioned that they appreciate and encourage relevant research data

Participants

1. Mr. Selim Reza Chief, Executive Officer, Dhaka North City Corporation
2. Air Commodore Md. Badrul Amin, Chief Waste Management Officer, Dhaka South City Corporation
3. Engr. Taqsem A Khan Managing Director, Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (WASA)
4. Md Abdur Rashid Khan, Chief Engineer, Department of Local Government
5. Prof. Nazrul Islam, Chairman, Centre for Urban Studies