

A proposal for Immediate Humanitarian Relief Assistance to 300 cyclone affected families and long term support for rehabilitation of 1000 families of South 24 Parganas district

Name of the Project	Immediate Humanitarian Relief Assistance to 300 cyclone affected families and the initiative for rehabilitation for 1000 distressed people of 23 villages under 3 development blocks, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal.
Project Period	28.05.2020 to 31.03.2021
1. Legal Holder:	Nishtha
1.1. Chief Functionary:	Ms. Mina Das, Secretary
1.2. Contact Person:	Ms. Mina Das
1.3. Address:	Subuddhipur, De Para, Baruipur, South 24-Parganas, West Bengal, India, Pin: 700144
1.4. Phone:	+ 91-33-2433 9865
1.5. Email:	nishtha.wb@gmail.com
1.6. Legal Status:	Registered under West Bengal Societies Registration Act of 1961 having registration number of S/41821 of 1983-84, also have FCRA registration.
1.7. FCRA No:	Registration No 147110101
1.8. Bank Details:	Punjab National Bank, Garia Branch A/C No: 1431000100002472

1. Background of the Organization:

About Nishtha

Nishtha is a community based women's organisation operating in nearly 300 villages of the South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal since early 1970s. It focuses on empowerment of women and considers education as the best tool for empowerment of all. Nishtha strives towards ushering in a brave new world that would deny all forms of discrimination on the basis of sex, class, caste, creed, religion or colour; where woman have equal rights with men as well as equal opportunities, where children's rights are secured and the elderly can live with dignity. Nishtha is registered under West Bengal Societies Registration Act of 1961 having registration number of S/41821 of 1983-84 and is having FCRA number 147110101.

Nishtha is operating in an area with a high incidence of systemic gender discrimination (GBD) and gender based violence (GBV) and crimes (more details in "problem analysis" section). As a response to the high instance of GBD and GBV, Nishtha has promoted gender rights as a major goal in its work and included gender rights as a cross cutting theme in all its other interventions: Nishtha has established volunteer groups

in communities – known as *Balak-BalikaVahini* (Children’s Groups), *Kishor-KishoriVahini* (Adolescent & Youth Groups), *MahilaMandals*(Women’s Groups) and Senior Women’s Groups. These groups have undergone sensitization and capacity building process over a period of time and are now empowered to address cases of violence and atrocities against women and girls in the local communities. A number of individuals from these groups have emerged as strong leaders at community level; they have intervened in the frequent cases of GBV that emerge in the area and are involved in mass sensitization on this issue. Through these interventions many cases of child marriage, domestic violence, trafficking and other such cases have been averted.

Nishtha’s other interventions include – operating a night shelter and day-care centre for children of sex workers, operating a training centre for capacity building of girls in life skills and income generation, mass awareness generation on trafficking and strengthening of village child protection committees (VLCPCs) on addressing the issue of trafficking of young girls and women. Nishtha has been running a sustained campaign to save the biodiversity and soil health of the Baruipur area – the campaign is led by Nishtha’s youth federation and women’s groups and focuses on sensitizing and training local farmers on adopting organic inputs in soil for cultivation and giving up the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Nishtha has been supported in this campaign by tdh Germany since 2010. Nishtha’s supporters and donors include – Sahay& Children’s International and Global Green Grants Fund among others.

Description of the project:

Background

The Cyclone Amphan, was an extremely severe cyclone which made a landfall in the Sundarbans area of West Bengal on 20th May, with wind speed of around 185 kmph, the cyclone caused maximum damage in the districts of North & **South 24 Parganas** and East Medinipur, also affecting Hooghly District and the city of Kolkata. The Cyclone has resulted in the deaths of at least 86 persons in the state of West Bengal as per latest reports – most deaths were caused due to electrocution or collapse of structures. There has been massive destruction to property – according to estimates millions of homes in South & North 24 Parganas and East Medinipur have been destroyed; since this was also the harvest season for mango, litchis, guavas and other fruits, there has been huge losses of the produce which were ready for the market – the farmers in this area whose income was already affected by the COVID induced lock-down in the country were hoping to make up for the losses to an extent after lock-down rules had been eased in the last week, however the losses incurred due to the cyclone has led to derailment of such plans. With the destruction of embankments due to the storm surges, saline water has entered many villages including the croplands. Since July is the planting season for Aman paddy and Boro paddy was ready in the field, the saline water incursions in the paddy fields which has been destroyed all, it is predicted that farmers will not be able to cultivate paddy for the next few years – this comes at a time when already there is a crisis in this areas with the COVID induced reverse migration – thus the area is looking at an extended period of devastating food insecurity.

Needs Analysis:

A rapid assessment conducted by our organization, Nishtha in some of the worst affected blocks of South 24 Parganas – such as **Magrahat-11, Bishnupur-1, Baruipur, Namkhana, Kultali, Patharpratima** – reveal that the immediate relief needs of the affected communities include – provisions for food as well as mosquito nets – since most affected families have lost the roofs of houses and due to the floods, they have lost cooking provisions, and this being the season for dengue and other vector borne diseases, immediate protection in the form of mosquito nets is being prioritized. Through information exchanged via the forum “Inter Agency Group – West Bengal” it is understood that other NGOs and aid agencies have started or plan to start relief interventions in the blocks of Kultali, Patharpratima, Gosaba , certain parts of Namkhana but nobody is working in **Magrahat-11, Bishnupur-1 or Baruipur development blocks**. Nishtha proposes to support 300 most distressed families from 5 villages of Magrahat-11 and Bishnupur -1 Blocks, where other aid agencies have not reached, with food & mosquito nets.

Immediate need of these distressed families’ food and shelter. But more important thing is their rehabilitation. For Rehabilitation it is important to provide different trainings, counselling, meetings with external experts and experienced leaders and stakeholders etc. Nishtha has a big training centre cum model farming unit where the trainee farmers receive practical trainings. But unfortunately this Amphan has destroyed different areas of construction and also the quarters of watch and ward staff members. The part of the 12 feet height boundary wall is demolished, the big toilet block has also gone and quarters of watch and ward including with their kitchen and toilet have also collapsed. Unless this training centre is reconstructed we would not be able to provide training for rehabilitation of these people. Due to lock down these people already have unrepairable loss as they do not have any income and now they are penniless. In addition this cyclone has destroyed their cultivable land and orchards. This will take about 5 years or so for them to get back their past glory. For this reason the initiative for **rehabilitation should be started without further delay**.

Area & Target Communities: The emergency response measures will be carried out in Magrahat -11 and Bishnupur -1 Blocks of South 24 Parganas District, support will be provided to 300 families belonging to 5 villages and training will be conducted for rehabilitation at least 1000 families of 23 villages under these 2 blocks.

Overall Objective: Ensuring humanitarian assistance to 300 cyclone affected families with food stuff and mosquito net and providing training for rehabilitation of 1000 distressed families in Magrahat-11 and Bishnupur 1–Blocks, South 24 Parganas District of West Bengal.

Planned Measures & Inputs:

Nutritional Supplement: Each of the 300 families will be supported with food packet consisting of – puffed rice, pulses, gram flour (*sattu*), sugar and cooking oil. The provisions will take care of immediate food requirements of families for an initial period of 1 week.

Shelter needs: 300 families will be provided with mosquito nets for the protection of family members from the insect borne diseases. Because of the rains followed by cyclone and the upcoming monsoon season, families will be otherwise vulnerable to diseases like snake bite, Malaria, dengue etc.

- **Rehabilitation; Infrastructural Development by reconstruction of Nishtha training Centre.** To complete the reconstruction of Nishtha training centre by December 2020. A toilet block with 4 latrines and 4

bathrooms were there. It will be rebuilt. 3500 sqft boundary wall will be constructed. Three bedrooms, two latrines and two kitchens for the watch and ward staffs will be repaired.

Budget for Immediate Humanitarian Relief and rehabilitation Assistance to cyclone affected families of 3 Gram Panchayats in South 24 Parganas, West Bengal

PROJECT ORGN : Nishtha

PROJECT PERIOD : 27.05.2020 - 31.03.2021

SI .No	Particulars	Rate per kg/ltr	unit (kg/ltr)	No.of families	Amount (INR)
A	Programme				
I	Distributions of dry food				
1	Puffed Rice @ 1 kg per family	70	1	300	21,000.00
2	Sugar @ 2 kgs per family	45	2	300	27,000.00
3	Pulses @ 1 kg per family	95	1	300	28,500.00
4	Gram Flour (Sattu) @ 500 g per family	140	0.5	300	21,000.00
5	Cooking Oil @ 1 liter per family	110	1	300	33,000.00
	sub total				130,500.00
II	NON FOOD ITEMS				
1	Mosquito Net @ Rs 350 per piece, 1 per family	350	1	300	105,000.00
	sub total				105,000.00
	sub total (I+II)				235,500.00
B	1 Rehabilitation of Nishtha for helping the distrees family villagers				
a	Construction of repairing boundary work				2,500,000.00
b	Toilets block for the trainees and the girls of the Day Care Centre				1,000,000.00
c	Repairing of the quarter of watch and ward				1,000,000.00
	sub total				4,500,000.00
C	Administrative Costs				
1	Transportation Costs (from Baruipur to Namkhana)	5800		1	5,800.00
2	Audit fees				5,000.00
	sub total				10,800.00
	Total required budget (A+B+C)				4,746,300.00

Total required fund- 47,46,300.00