



**ANNUAL ACTIVITY
REPORT DFY-NERO
2014-2015**

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**DFY-NERO
Chapter**

Apart from disaster response pertaining to health care, disaster preparedness and capacity building training is one of the core strength of DFY NERO. In the year 2014-15 DFY Assam conducted more than 35 trainings all over Assam. These trainings were sponsored by Assam State Disaster Management Authority.

Disaster preparedness and capacity building trainings are conducted in for specific modules. These are Community Based Disaster Preparedness (CBDP), Mass Casualty Management (MCM), Hospital Preparedness and Mass Casualty Management including Hospital Safety plans (HPMCM) and Public Health in Emergencies (PHiE)

During the financial year 2014-2015, Doctors For You NERO (North Eastern Regional Office) has been actively involved response program during two major disasters that took place in Assam, i.e. Goalpara floods and Kokrajhar Ethnic violence. The response programmes were pertaining to health care services.



Ensuring clean delivery in the camps of Kokrajhar

35 year old Rohita Goyari was pregnant when she was forced to take shelter in one of the relief camps of Gossaigaon as the consequence of the violence that splurged in the BTAD regions on December 2014. Like all other inmates, she was also reluctant to return to her homes as they feared further resentment. The possibility of delivering her baby in the camp amidst unhygienic conditions was a prominent. Meanwhile she was linked to DFY who took initiative to deliver reproductive health care to the pregnant ladies in the camps. He delivered her baby in relief camp itself on 20th January (2015) using the clean delivery kit provided by Doctors For You. Orientations on how to use the clean delivery kits were also given to the ASHAs present in the camps and to the attendants of the pregnant women.

Health care response in BTAD violence (2014-15)

The violence in Lower Assam in the year 2014-15 led to a massive 300,000 internal displacement as reported by Asian centre for human rights in January 2015. Thousands of people in the affected districts of Kokrajhar, Sonitpur, Udalguri and Chirang left their homes and took shelter in schools and churches and other relief camps. For about four months people lived in camps built in open fields resulting in threats to Water, sanitation and hygiene. Doctors for You (DFY) deployed its medical response team in Kokrajhar immediately after the Initial rapid assessment with Water, Sanitation and Hygiene as priority concern besides primary health care services. Simultaneous to the primary health check-ups for the inhabitants of the relief camps, DFY ensured that the inhabitants could have access to clean drinking water and basic hygiene facilities. Chlorine tablets were distributed in households. Our field workers demonstrated usage bleaching powder and disinfection of water source with bleaching powders after testing the water quality of different water sources available in the camps. Apart from that, women and adolescent girls were distributed dignity and hygiene kits. In the primary health camps (periodical) that continued for 3 months, patients were treated and were provided medicines. De-worming for both infant and adults was also a part of the health camps.

Highlights of BTAD violence 2014-15

- Around 900 patients were treated in the camps
- Over 1200 no of people received de-worming
- Adolescent girls and women were distributed with dignity and hygiene kits
- Registered pregnant women were provided with clean delivery kits. A total of 35 clean delivery kits were distributed.
- Bleaching powders were distributed in the camps through the camp leaders and chlorine tablets were distributed on household basis



Disaster Preparedness and capacity building trainings

Disaster preparedness and capacity building training program with Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) is one of the major projects of DFY-NERO (North East Regional Office). The second phase of this project is successfully completed in March 2015. The disaster preparedness and capacity building trainings are conducted in four specific modules. In the project year 2014-15, DFY has conducted 4 Community Based Disaster Preparedness trainings, 15 Mass Casualty Management (MCM) trainings; 15 Hospital Preparedness and MCM trainings and 5 Public Health in emergencies trainings throughout various districts of Assam. These trainings are conducted throughout various districts of Assam.

Emergency Management Exercise (EMEX): DFY conducted trainings on two modules i.e. CDBP and PHiE in Nagaon and Barpeta districts of Assam as part of the Emergency Management Exercise, in association with ASDMA. The emergency exercise was conducted in three phases of trainings on the above mentioned modules followed by table top exercise, and mock drill.



Initiative towards hospital disaster preparedness

One of the major achievements of these trainings in the year 2014-15 was that DFY in cooperation with the participants and supported by District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) was able to compile the Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) for the respective district civil hospital. This was done after a field visit to the district civil hospitals where a group of training participants visited the hospital to find out if the hospital is maintaining the WHO checklist for safe hospital. After that the HICS of that respective civil hospital was prepared with the help of the inputs from the hospital administrator and doctors. The HICS will help the hospital administration to assess the resources of the hospital, and plan and prepare accordingly for any emergencies. HICS were compiled in 8 districts i.e. Goalpara, Bongaigaon, Barpeta, Golaghat, Morigaon, Sivasagar, Morigaon and Sonitpur district.

“Public health in emergency is a very important issue these days. We would like to thank team Doctors For You for coming up with this training module on Public Health in Emergencies. Various training methods like role play, presentation, group discussion and interaction with the resource persons helped the participant to grasp the sessions more practically.”

Mrs Nizara Kalita, PHiE training participant, Lakhimpur





Health care Response in Goalpara Floods, 2014

Besides conducting this disaster preparedness and capacity building trainings under DFY-ASDMA project, The DFY-NERO (North East Regional Office) was also involved in Goalpara flood response. In the month of September 2014, Assam's Goalpara district was severely affected by flash floods leaving more than 3,00,000 people affected. Doctors For You executed its mission in flood hit Goalpara district with health cluster assessment of the affected population. The primary objective of the assessment was to get a comprehensive picture of existing camps, humanitarian situation and response pertaining to health needs of those affected by the flood. As per the data collected and recommendation of the Initial Health Cluster Assessment in the flood affected areas, Doctors For You launched its medical health response for the population and organized health camps in 12 clusters covering 24 villages.

TOT on ASHAs role in disaster management

ASHA or Accredited Social Health Activist is a trained female community health activist in village level and ASHAs are one of the key components of the National Rural Health Mission. The role of ASHA in disaster or emergency get intensified as she is a health activist in the community who will create awareness on post disaster health issues and its social determinants and mobilise the community towards local health planning; increased utilisation and accountability of the existing resources in terms of health.

DFY conducted a Training of Trainers on ASHAs role in disaster management in Guwahati, Assam. This TOT was conducted in support and association of Regional Resource Centre (Guwahati)-NHSRC. This training focused on capacity building and disaster preparedness of ASHAs as they are one of the primary responders in emergency situations. Participants from 8 North Eastern states participated in this training. This TOT serves as the foundation of the capacity building and disaster preparedness for the ASHAs.

Mock drills in Assam as part of the emergency management exercise

Doctors For you conducted a mock drill on 06/07/2014 in Goalpara district as part of Hospital Preparedness and Mass Casualty Management including Hospital Safety plans. The mock drill was organised in collaboration with District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA, Goalpara) and supported by Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA). The mock drill was conducted to test the emergency preparedness of the participants as well as the Hospital. During the mock drill it was observed that there were no emergency plans in the district civil hospital, in fact the emergency medicine stock was also not enough. Surprisingly there was no security to manage the crowd in the emergency department. However, the participants of the mock drill performed the triage session quite well despite the complications in emergency care in the hospital. In a positive output the participants were able to learn the importance of emergency hospital preparedness.