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Project Number: TF/BGD/03/001
UNIDO Contract Number: Amendment A to Contract No. 16001095

## **FINAL REPORT**

PROJECT TITLE
IMPROVING HUMAN SECURITY BY MITIGATING ARSENIC POISONING

PROJECT EXECUTED BY
UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (UNIDO)

PROJECT FUNDED BY
UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND FOR HUMAN SECURITY



# Brota Services International

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Ref Bro/UNIDO/005/08

Date: 27, June 2008.

To,

Mr. Ranko Vujacic

Director,

**Operational Support Services Branch** 

and Chief a.i.

Procurement Services Unit

Programme Support and General management Division

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Vienna International Centre.

Wagramer Strasse 5, A-1220 Vienna, Austria.

Subject: Final Report for the activities performed against Amendment A to UNIDO Contract No. 16001095

Dear Sir.

We have the pleasure to inform you that we have just completed the Additional activities of project "TF/BGD/03/001 – Improving Human security by Mitigating Arsenic Poisoning by providing Services for Local Awareness and Capacity Building and Assurance of Safe Water Supply for Community in Bangladesh – Contract No. 16001095, Amendment A" Final Report covering up to June 2008.

Please find enclosed herewith Final report covering up to June 2008 on the project activities based on Terms of Reference,

The language of all the reports, Statement is in English as per your instructions.

I hope and believe that the Final Report will be able to meet your requirements and acceptable at your kind end and we shall get the payment for the Final Report at an early date.

Thanking you,

Sincerely yours.

Brota Services International

za Gopal Das)

#### **Background Information:**

As part of the Project, Improving Human Security by Mitigating Arsenic Poisoning in Bangladesh, UNIDO started a public awareness campaign, which included the erection of Billboards and Hoardings in Hajigonj and Shahrasti Upazillas of Project area.

Some of the Billboards and Hoardings were destroyed due to the devastating SIDR (Super Cyclone). The Billboards and Hoardings need to be replaced and /or repaired and fixed securely to withstand strong winds and rain.

Additionally, Contractor's personnel are required to visit the project area along with experts, stakeholders and expatriate guests and other official visits and to travel within the country in order to organize workshops and awareness campaign. Moreover, they are responsible in monitoring health camps provided to the community people located in the villages.

#### Short brief of Activities:

- 1. Replacement and restoration of Billboards and Hoardings which have been damaged by SIDR and mentioned in the contract.
- 2. Travel and transportation needed for contractor's personnel, experts, stakeholders, expatriate guests and other official visits within the country for organizing workshops, awareness campaign, monitoring health camp.

# **Activities Performed**

#### REPLACEMENT AND RESTORATION OF BILLBOARDS AND HOARDINGS

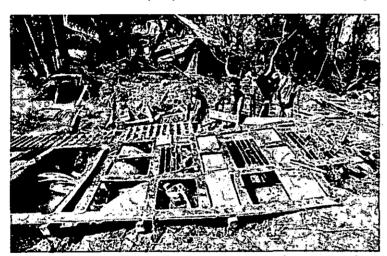
## Situation Analysis and Justification

The SIDR (Super Cyclone), a category 4 storm, hit the coastal belt of Bangladesh in the evening of November 15th 2007. It hit the offshore islands first and then swept across the southern coast from west to east towards north at a wind speed up to 240 kilometers per hour. The caused extensive SIDR damages to the southern districts as it moved north across central Bangladesh. Presently, more than 3.1 million people in southern



districts are known to have been directly affected by the cyclone and associated storms.

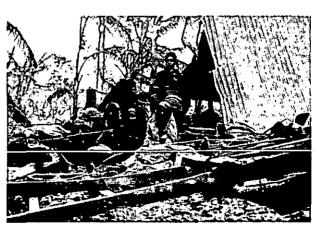
As of November 19th, reports issued by the Government of Bangladesh (GOB), cited a death toll of 2,408 people, with 1,063 people missing and 1,491 injured. The GOB



estimated that over 273,000 homes were destroyed and another 650,000 houses were damaged. Crops 761,361 acres of land were destroved with extensive damage: to roads and public buildings including the destruction ОГ partial destruction of 4,306 educational institutions. Emergency was declared within the area by the

government and immediate rescue operations were deployed by the armed forces of Bangladesh in the affected areas.

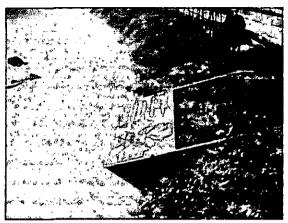
The after affect of the cyclone SIDR was very devastating. Our project area Chandpur is located in the south-eastern part of Bangladesh which is also severely affected by the SIDR. Some of them destroyed fully and some of them destroyed partially. As a result, a number of panel boards and bill boards of the UNIDO Arsenic project were fully and partially damaged to an extent that it needed total overhauling and repairing as well as replacement and re-installation.



#### **Performed Activities**

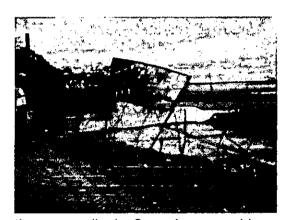
#### 1. Replacement and re-installation of Billboard

Out of total 50 bill boards, 08 numbers billboards were completely of destroyed due to SIDR. They were not in a condition to repair or overhaul any way. These have been broken in to several pieces and were blown away by the storm. Considering the situation and demand of the area, it was decided to replace the same by the respective NGOs working in the field of arsenic mitigation project of UNIDO. 08 numbers of billboards were completely remade and re-installed. For each and



every billboard Pena flex was newly printed with the messages and information and replaced them accordingly. There were some foundation works also done to fix those more firmly.

#### 2. Partial Repairing of Billboards

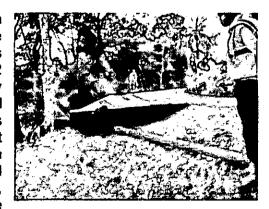


A total numbers of 18 billboards were partially damaged. Some of the billboards' standing structures were broken from the joining point of the base-foundations. Pena flex of some of the billboards were completely torn out and some were partially damaged. The stands of some billboards were broken in to several pieces for which the total stands needed to be replaced. For each and every billboard Pena flex was newly printed with the messages and information and replaced

them accordingly. Some base repairing works were also done.

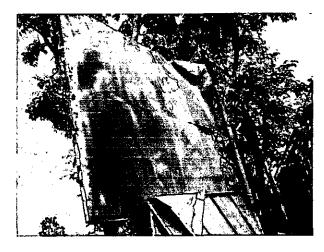
#### 3. Replacement and re-installation of Panel Board/ Hoarding

The size of the panel boards was much bigger than the billboards but these were less damaged in terms of quantity as because of the heavy structure. Only 02 numbers of panel boards were completely broken as these were at the open places and beyond any repairing. And the locations were very much important for the project area. So, replacement and re-installation were very much important and demand driven for the interest of the project. So, these were replaced by the new boards. The



Pena flex were newly printed with the messages and information. Most of the structures were replaced as these were broken into several parts. Some base repair works were also done to fix it more firmly.

#### 4. Partial Replacement and Repairing of Panel Board/ Hoarding



04 panel boards were partially damaged of which joining points of 02 were broken completely from the base - foundation and the Pena flex were completely damaged. But the other 02 numbers of Panel boards were more significantly damaged including the stands of the structure and the Pena flex. The level of damage could be more devastating in terms of the severity of the SIDR.

#### Approach and Methodology

After assessment of the damages caused by the SIDR, an Open Tender was invited as per the procurement system of the project for the repairing and reinstallation works. Out of three short listed firms, the lowest bidder was awarded with the contract for the works.

#### Problems Encountered during the repairing period

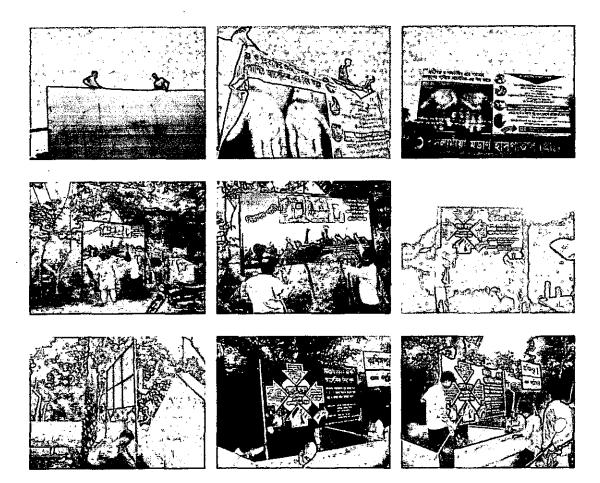
Some problems were faced during shifting/removing and repairing of the damaged panel/hoardings boards and bill boards from the places. In case of complete damaged hoardings, the structure had to cut into pieces to remove as they where too large to carry. Moreover, the process was slowed down due to another 2/3 medium level storms passed during the repairing period.

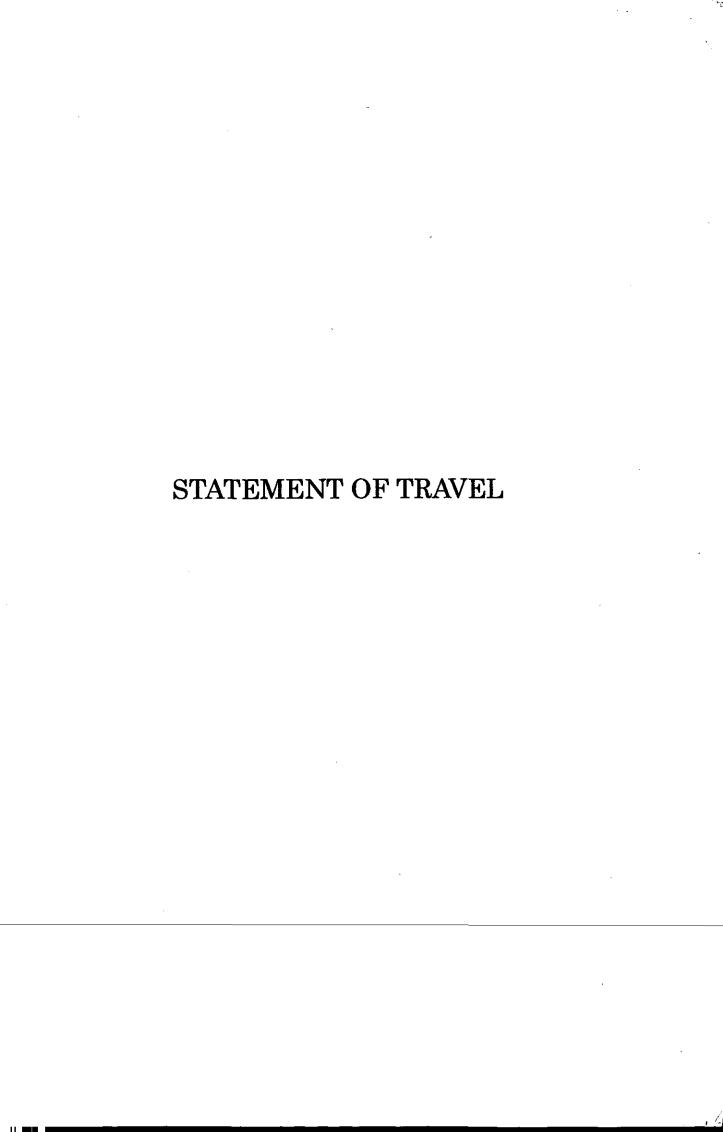
#### **End note**

Natural disaster in the form of flood, cyclone and nor'wester are very much common phenomenon in Bangladesh. The SIDR hit Bangladesh severely in the coastal belts districts and affected the whole country economically and socially. Chandpur, our project area, is one of the districts where many of the infrastructures were damaged and destroyed by the SIDR. Emergency steps were taken to manage the disaster and to keep the project activities running. Some areas like- Tamta Bazaar, Upalota School, Ahmed Nagar, Aynatoli Bazaar, North Meher, Khila Bazaar, Raghoi Bazaar, Bernaiya Primary school and so on under Shahrasti Upazilla and Hajigonj & Ramganj connecting road, Belcho Bazaar, Kalcho South, Hatila South, West Barakul, Pirojpur Primary School, Kathali and so on under Hajigonj Upazillas of Chandpur district where repairing, replacement and re-installation activities were done.

## **Few Pictures of Devastations**







# **UNIDO Arsenic Project-Bangladesh Statement of Travel**

Numbers of travels were undertaken for implementing the project activities at the project area during the period from 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2006 till 30 April 2008 by the project personnel, stakeholders and expatriates, GO & NGO officials both National & International. These travels were besides routine travel, as follows:

- Period	Description in brief
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter July – Sept, 06	During inception period of the project, the project personnel along with others had to undertake travels to meet different categories of stakeholders in Dhaka and at project area. They were officers of Ministry of Industry (MOI), Member of Parliament (MP), Local Government and Rural Development (LGRD), Director General of Health Services, Department of Public Health and Engineering (DPHE), Arsenic Project of the Government, World Health Organization (WHO), UNDP, UNICEF, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Bangladesh Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR), Embassy of Japan in Bangladesh, NGO Forum, JICA, OCETA, World Water aid, Experts on Arsenic, Media Personalities, both-Electronic and Print and other related activists and National & International NGOs in Dhaka; the Deputy Commissioner (DC), Civil Surgeon (CS), Superintendent of Police (SP), Executive Engineer (XEN)-DPHE, Rural Electrification Board (REB) authorities-Comilla & Chandpur, Journalists and others at the district of Chandpur; the Upazilla Nirbahi Officers (UNO), Upazilla Health and Family Planning Officers, (UzHFPO), Police Administration, Upazilla Social Welfare Officers, Upazilla Agriculture Officers, Upazilla Education Officers, Upazilla Engineers-DPHE, Heads of all educational institutions, Youth Clubs, Labour Organizations, Women Organizations and others at the upazilla level of project area of Hajiganj and Shahrasti; including Chairmen of Municipalities, all the union parishad Chairmen & members, local elites, religious leaders, Overseas Experts, District and local administration, beneficiaries and other Stakeholders of two project areas at the union level of 20 unions.  All the above mentioned officers, dignitaries, personalities and offices from national level down to union level had to meet several times to make them
July – Sept,	Journalists and others at the district of Chandpur; the Upazilla Nirbahi Officers (UNO), Upazilla Health and Family Planning Officers (UzHFPO), Police Administration, Upazilla Social Welfare Officers, Upazilla Agriculture Officers, Upazilla Education Officers, Upazilla Engineers-DPHE, Heads of all educational institutions, Youth Clubs, Labour Organizations, Women Organizations and others at the upazilla level of project area of Hajiganj and Shahrasti; including Chairmen of Municipalities, all the union parishad Chairmen & members, local elites, religious leaders, Overseas Experts, District
	areas at the union level of 20 unions.  All the above mentioned officers, dignitaries, personalities and offices from national level down to union level had to meet several times to make them understand about the aims, objectives, activities, duration etc. of the pilot project and convince them to extend co-operation and support for implementing the project. As a result, travels were increased.
	Moreover, during 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter, two Sensitization Workshops at two upazilla headquarters of Hajiganj & Shahrasti and 20 Union level Sensitization Workshops were organized & held and these time also frequency of travels were increased to meet the stakeholders for sharing the views and taking
	consent and to invite them and follow-up visits to confirm their presence at the workshops and for other activities.
F/ Statement	of Travel

Conducted a Baseline Survey at the project area which was not included in the project plan and as a result for mobilizing the field force additional efforts were made. Training for Medical Professionals on Identification and Management of Arsenicosis patients were arranged during this quarter. For successful conduction of the training involvement of Upazilla Health Administration and others were necessary and met them several times. For conducting of VAMWs training on Service Delivery Guide Book, 20 nos. UAMC training etc. travels were undertaken at the project area. Moreover, for site selection and installation of CBARUs, series of meetings with the UP Chairmen and Donors of land for CBARU were held and had to travel to and from project area several times. For arranging a plot of land to install Sanitation & Regeneration plants at the project site, travel had to undertake beyond estimated number for negotiation and settlement of the matters related to purchase of land. Approached the Rural Electrification Board (REB) for power supply purposes and went to Gazipur, Savar, Dhaka, Comilla and Chandpur for arranging Transformer and power sources according to requirement of the Regeneration 2<sup>nd</sup> Ouarter Plant. Oct - Dec, 06 The appropriate authorities had to meet several times to take permission for fixing Bill Boards & Hoardings such as, Chairmen of Hajiganj & Shahrasti Municipalities, Upazilla Nirbahi Officers (UNO) and Chairmen of union parishads. During the period (i) Mr. Jun Nishida, (ii) Mr. H. Inadome & (iii) Mr. Md. Shamsul Huq Bhuiyan, XEN, DPHE visited the project area and from JICA-M/S. T. Sugawara, R. Ogata & Z. Ali, from OCETA- M/S. Jim Hamilton, Elma Morsheda, Anis Sarkar, Shahriar Bin Rasel and Siddigur Rahim also visited in different occasions. For the above, pre-visits were made to organize accommodation etc. for the visitors for their night halts and other arrangements. Went to MOI, DPHE, WHO, BCSIR and other offices. Travels were undertaken for organizing training for UAMC and follow-ups, FGDs, Health Camps, Folk Songs, IGA activities, poster & sticker distribution, installation of CBARUs, distribution of HHARUs etc. Besides, M/S. Pablo Huidobro, H. Inadome and Toshio Yotsumoto visited the project. Pre-visits were made to organize accommodation etc. for the visitors 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter for their night halts and other arrangements. In this connection, meetings with Jan - Mar, MOI, DPHE, WHO, BCSIR, District Administration, Civil Surgeon, **07** Superintendent of Police (SP), Executive Engineer (XEN)-DPHE, Journalists and others at the district of Chandpur; the Upazilla Nirbahi Officers (UNO), Family Planning Officers (UzHFPO), Police Health and

Administration at both the upazillas were held.

F/Statement of Travel

4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter April 2007 to July 2007	Besides the routine visits, there was a Refresher Training Program held for Medical Professionals and distribution of poster & sticker.
	During the period Mr. H. Inadome, M/S. S. M. Ihtishamul Huq, Sudhir Kumar Ghose, Md. Shamsul Huq Bhuiyan from DPHE and Mr. Richerd Johnston from UNICEF visited the project area and also Dr. Akhtaruzzaman from MOI, Dr. Salamat Khandker from WHO visited the project area in different occasions and met and discussed with the stakeholders and beneficiaries regarding the project activities. Pre-visits were made to organize accommodation etc. for the visitors for their night halts and other arrangement.
	Visited MOI, DPHE, WHO, EU, Director General of Health Services (DGHS) and others for discussion during the period.
	Visited the project area to assess the damages caused due to severe Nor'wester.
5 <sup>th</sup> Quarter July 2007 to September 2007	Besides the routine travels for monitoring, supervision and conducting other activities visits were made for organizing participation at the Tree Plantation Fairs at both the upazilla head quarters, selection of Arsenic Free Villages etc.
	It may be noted that Ms. Aya Ando, UNIDO Volunteer from Japan and Mr. H. Inadome visited the Project. Ms. Aya Ando stayed at the project area about a month. Pre and visits during her stay were made on different occasions.
	During the period visited spots for shooting of Folk Song, Documentary video film and Drama on arsenic issue in different occasions.
	Discussions were held with MOI, DPHE, WHO, BCSIR and others during the period in Dhaka.
6 <sup>th</sup> Quarter October 2007 to December 2007	Travels were made for forming Water Users' Forum for each of the 20 CBARUs of the project area and the training for the Executive members of the forum.
	For organizing 02 Project Experience Sharing Workshops at the upazilla head quarters, district level officers of Chandpur and upazilla level officers of Hajiganj and Shahrasti and all other stakeholders of the project including arsenicosis patients were met in different occasions.
	Mr. Seiji Oshima, Ms. Toshio Yotsumoto and Mr. H. Inadome visited the project. Pre-visits were made to organize accommodation etc. for the visitors for their night halts and other arrangements.
	Attended the meeting at the office of the Civil Surgeon, Chandpur on Identification of Arsenicosis patients. The meeting was attended by the Director General of Health Services. Similar type of meeting was also organized by WHO.
	Moreover, the project area was visited to see the problems faced due to SIDR (Super cyclone) hit Bangladesh on November 15, 2007 and to assess the

damages caused to the Hoardings and Billboards and to find out the ways and means to overcome those problems. The billboards and hoardings were partially damaged and in some cases it was fully.

Besides the regular field visits, for implementing the project activities during the period, a number of field visits were undertaken.

Mr. Pablo Huidobro and Ms. Ikue Toshinaga and also Mr. Parimal Chandra Bose from MOI and Mr. H. Inadome visited the project area and met different categories of stakeholders and beneficiaries and discussed about the achievements and further extension of the project. Pre-visits were made to organize accommodation etc. for the visitors for their night halts and other arrangements.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Quarter Jan 2008 to Mar 2008

Meetings with MOI, DPHE, OCETA and others were held. Meeting was also held with WHO for discussing regarding holding of Project Result Dissemination of Workshop.

Visited the project area for re-installing and re-fixing the damaged Billboards and Hoardings at different places.

Visited the project area to check and monitor the repairing/reinstallation works of the damaged billboards/hoardings due to severe heat of SIDR.

Visited remotest parts of the project area to organize and show the Folk Song Program, Documentary video film and Drama through Multi-media for creating awareness on arsenic issue.

The is the closing quarter of the two (02) years pilot project and as a result frequency of visits have been increased to different stakeholders both at field & national levels. Formal and informal discussions were held with different organizations and personalities for participation in the Project Result Dissemination of Workshops. At the upazilla level as well as national level.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Quarter Apr 2008 to Jun 2008

Several visits were made at the project area to check the water logging at the CBARU points due to early start of monsoon.

Mr. Yuichi Inagaki, Second Secretary, Economic & Development Cooperation, Embassy of Japan visited the project area on 30-04-2008 and 01-05-2008 and pre-visits were made to organize accommodation etc. for the visitor for his night halt and other arrangements.

Discussions with MOI, DPHE, Embassy of Japan and others were held.