CBM is an international non-government development organisation devoted to improving the lives of people with disabilities in the poorest places on earth.
Poverty and disability go hand in hand creating a cycle of inequality, isolation and exclusion that leads to the most extreme forms of poverty.
We implement disability inclusive programs that help transform society, changing lives of millions of people with disabilities who benefit from real, lasting change.
Saving Lives and Leaving No One Behind in Gaibandha, Bangladesh
**Premise**: a rights based approach to sustainable development in disaster contexts requires inclusive strategies, particularly for people with disability.

**Question**: what is the good practice ensuring no one is left behind in community disaster risk reduction strategies?

**Purpose**: learning to improve design and implementation of future DRR projects and all community work.
Research and documentation of the Gaibandha DiDRR model

Existing project with two of CBM’s long-term partners: Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) and Gana Unnayan Kendra (GUK)

One of most disaster-prone areas in Bangladesh, with floods annually during monsoon, on the Jamuna floodplain.

Project design with DIDRR and CBID (community-based inclusive development) approach
Research and documentation of the Gaibandha DiDRR model

Methodology:
- 1 week field research with local and international staff and researcher
- 4 focus group sessions
- 30 in-depth interviews (30-90 mins)
- Mixed selection
- Good practice approaches
- Pre-training of team in methods
- Joint coding and analysis of findings
- Triangulation with earlier reports
- Feedback and consultation (RTE)
- Agreed conclusions with stakeholders
Background rationale for the DiDRR project

Disaster risk - the combination of probability of a hazardous event and negative consequences it has for human life and assets.

Disaster Risk Reduction – strategies and practices to
• reduce the occurrence of hazards
• decrease the exposure and vulnerability of people and assets
• strengthen their capacity to cope with the events.

Inclusion - Inclusive programming ensures people’s rights to access and benefit from services and opportunities are met. Disability inclusion addresses barriers to inclusion of people with disabilities.
What works and why?  
Key findings:

- **Effective inclusive DRR** requires:
  All of society engagement and design which has age, gender, disability and cultural perspectives in all policies & practices (Sendai F/W for DRR 2015-30):

  ✓ Empowerment - voice
  ✓ Equality - agency
  ✓ Inclusion - included
  ✓ Accessibility - barriers
  ✓ Non-discriminatory participation
Gaibanda DIDRR design:

**Aim:** to **build capacities and resilience** of people with disabilities so they are better prepared for emergencies, preventing loss of lives and reducing disruptions in livelihoods by:

- Building **capacities** of community members and relevant government institutions
- Developing disability **inclusive** community DRR plans together with communities and local governments
- Promoting the practice of selected **mitigation activities** including income diversification
- Strengthening **advocacy** for disability inclusive DRR policies at the local and national levels
Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction
What worked in Gaibandha, Bangladesh

5 key areas of action

- Self help groups work with government for disability inclusion
- Disability considered in local disaster plans
- Strong self help groups
- Schools raise awareness, host drills and provide shelter
- Sustainable, resilient livelihoods are developed

= more resilient and inclusive communities
Strengthen groups of people with disability and their representative groups

Take time to understand the community

Work to include everyone

Ensure self-help groups know about their rights

Support people with disability to show leadership
Action Research findings: Gaibandha DiDRR model

Then: Advocate with local government on disaster risk management
Self-help groups advocate about disability issues, disasters and broader community development issues

Work for improved accessibility of government offices as a starting point to broader changes

Successful action means people with disability are becoming more recognised
And: Build accessible infrastructure and involve community for inclusion in disaster risk reduction

Involve women and men with disability in community risk assessment processes.
Make sure local disaster management committees are active
Early warning systems need to be timely and accessible to everyone
Make evacuation inclusive and shelters accessible.
Action Research findings: Gaibandha DiDRR model

Also: Work with schools to strengthen household and community awareness and preparedness

Work with schools to act as shelters

Students can share information with families

Schools can host practice evacuations
Action Research findings: Gaibandha DiDRR model

And: Promote and support sustainable, resilient livelihoods

Work with community members to identify livelihood options that can withstand disasters

Focus on abilities not disabilities

Promote group-based income generation
Action Research findings: Gaibandha DiDRR model

Gaps:
Focus on GBV in disasters; multiple barriers; greater focus about income streams and livelihoods strategies

Next steps:
• Share the learning on good practice
• Stimulate discussion on strategies to put inclusion in all SDGs work
• Ask where inclusion is and isn’t working – more testing
• Continue to improve practice in new projects

Continue to ensure everyone is safe, and no-one is left behind
CBM’s partners Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) and Gana Unnayan Kendra (GUK) have been implementing a disaster risk reduction (DRR) program in Gaibandha, Bangladesh.

Access the full good practice guide at https://www.cbm.org/article/downloads/54741/DRR_Booklet.pdf. For more information contact: Manuel Rothe (manuel.rothe@cbmswiss.ch)