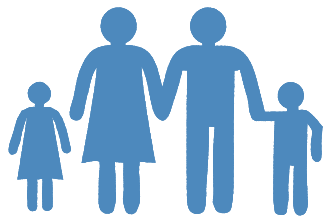




CYLCONE NARGIS OPERATION 2008-2013

IMPACT OF CYCLONE NARGIS

On 2 May 2008 Cyclone Nargis struck Myanmar, making landfall in the Ayeyarwady Division before hitting the former capital, Yangon. The impact was catastrophic – 140,000 people lost their lives and the force of the cyclone destroyed homes and infrastructure, including roads, jetties, water and sanitation systems, fuel supplies and electricity networks. A large number of water sources were contaminated and food stocks damaged or destroyed. The primary agriculture and fisheries sectors were crippled with over one million people losing their livelihoods.



7.35 MILLION PEOPLE AFFECTED

140,000 LIVES LOST

800,000 PEOPLE DISPLACED

**450,000 HOMES
DAMAGED OR
DESTROYED**



**WATER SOURCES FOR 1.8 MILLION
PEOPLE DESTROYED**



**50-60% OF SCHOOLS
DAMAGED OR
DESTROYED**



63% OF PADDY FIELDS DESTROYED

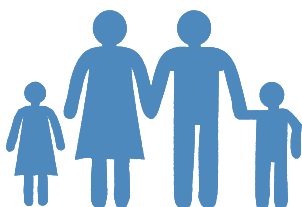
**251,000 METRIC
TONNES OF STORED
PADDY SEED
DESTROYED**



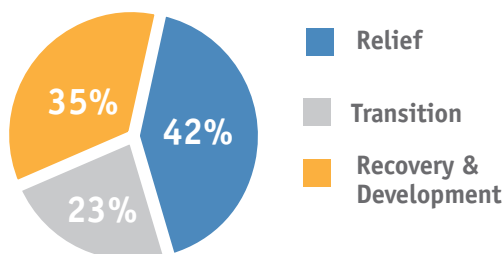
CARE'S RESPONSE

CARE assisted more than 288,000 people, and almost US\$ 18.4 million was allocated across 45 projects from May 08-June 13.

**SUPPORTED 288,000 PEOPLE
THROUGH THE RELIEF, TRANSITION
AND RECOVERY PHASES**



HOW THE MONEY WAS SPENT



In 2014, CARE completed an independent evaluation of its response and recovery operations over the period 2008 to 2013. It found increased levels of resilience among the affected communities and that CARE's efforts made a significant contribution.

RELIEF PHASE (MAY-NOV 08)

CARE **delivered food assistance** to survivors, including 3,870 metric tons (MT) of rice; 749MT of beans, 255,695 litres of cooking oil, 43.8MT of salt and 13.3MT of high-energy biscuits. People remembered this assistance as “live-saving”.

In addition to providing **access to drinking water and reducing life-threatening water borne diseases**, CARE rehabilitated 680 ponds and wells for 14,545 households; constructed 147 hand pumps; established six water purification plants and distributed 17,638 jerry cans and over 5,000 earthen jars. CARE constructed 12,000 fly-proof latrines, distributed 12,135 hygiene kits and conducted hygiene promotion training.

CARE provided 40,000 families with **temporary shelter kits** (which included bamboo and Nipa Palm leaves – a traditional roofing material) as well as **family kits** (clothing, hygiene items, cooking sets, tool kits and blankets).

CARE distributed rice seeds, lime, tools and fuel so **farmers could plant a rice harvest immediately**. Village leaders stated “without the seeds and lime we could not have planted our fields in time... to not have a winter harvest would have been the end for us”. CARE **restocked lakes and rivers** with fish and prawns, provided boats and nets for fishermen and women and distributed ducks and livestock such as buffaloes.



TRANSITION PHASE (DEC 08-AUG 09)

CARE helped families rebuild their lives by providing 25,602 people with **agricultural and fisheries livelihoods assistance** and equipment such as seeds, push roll weeders, threshers and dryers to re-establish paddy fields and farms. CARE also distributed local piglets and ducks and supported home gardens with seeds, tools and fertiliser. All material assistance was accompanied by training.

CARE addressed **water and sanitation needs** through well reconstruction and renovation; rain water tank and pond construction; introducing water quality surveillance systems at the household level and establishing water management groups to manage and maintain infrastructure.

CARE helped **reduce future disaster risks** by planting wind-break trees, constructing cyclone shelters and establishing early warning systems in 53 villages. Rehabilitation of infrastructure such as footpaths and bridges (increasing mobility in the event of a disaster) was addressed through a cash-for-work scheme. Early warning systems remain active with notifications broadcast through village speaker systems and strong community understanding on taking appropriate action such as moving to high ground or cyclone shelters. All activities during the recovery phase were implemented with the support of **98 Village Development Committees (VDCs), which were mobilised** by CARE to enable communities to manage their recovery and establish Village Development Funds (VDFs).



RECOVERY & DEVELOPMENT PHASE (AUG 09-JUNE 13)

CARE worked towards completing **infrastructure development, restoring social structures and institutionalising village development** mechanisms to ensure sustainability such as VDCs and VDFs. **All VDCs reported being committed to activities** in their communities with one VDC member stating “we have a strong collaboration with local authorities, but we have an even stronger collaboration with our own community”.

Recovery of village infrastructure led to improved economic opportunities, while cyclone shelters and reinforced housing construction resulted in **greater emergency preparedness**. There was also an increase in disaster risk reduction practices such as storing food and water ahead of time and listening to radio broadcasts.

Access to quality drinking and domestic water increased, and both men and women noted **increased toilet use** as one of the most significant changes post-Nargis.

CARE's work contributed to the **steady recovery of livelihoods** with improved farming practices. Activities such as **pig and duck-rearing were successful** in increasing household income and have been adopted widely by non-beneficiary communities. One farmer noted “pig rearing is beneficial for the community. Households have got good income by selling piglets and the activity is continuing”.

Women were included in all phases, from being part of distribution committees to mandatory 50% membership in VDCs. This led to a **significant increase in women's leadership**, increased confidence among women and respect for their role in decision-making.

