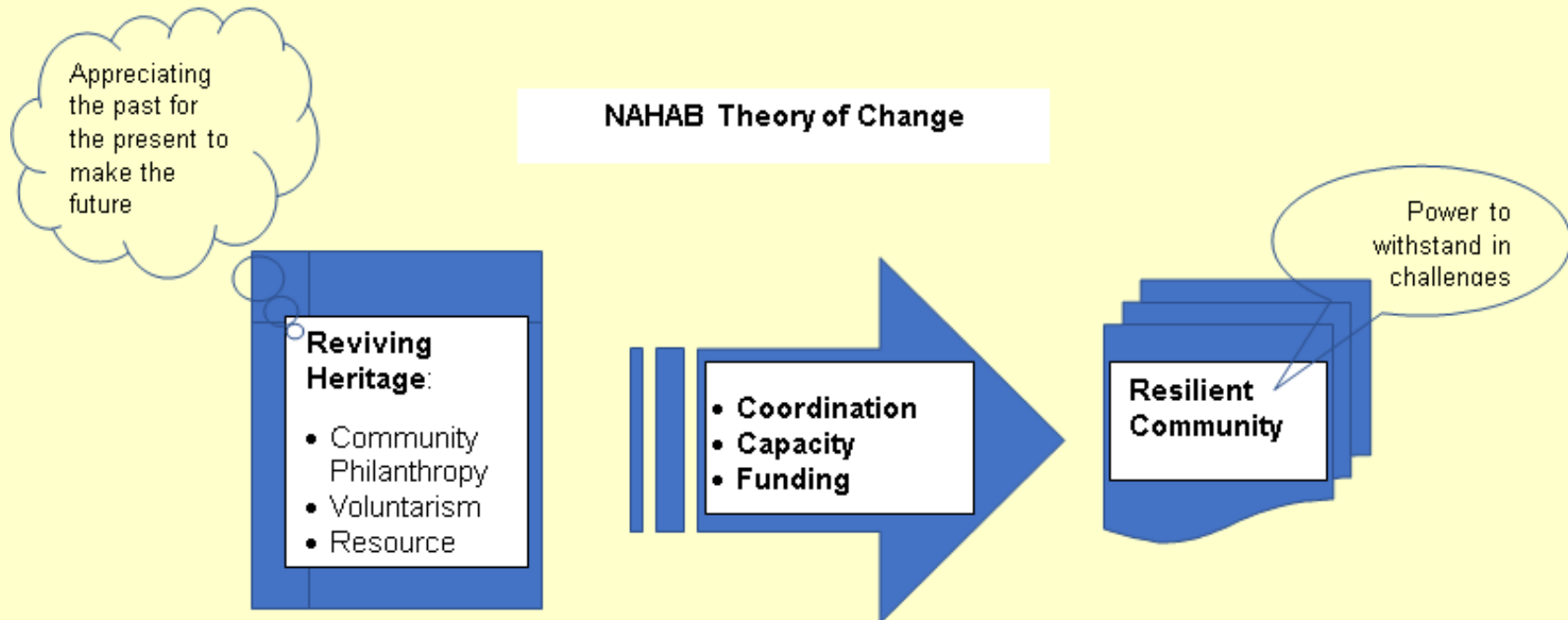


NAHAB Localization Lab

An approach for-

“Local Initiatives For Emergencies (LIFE)”

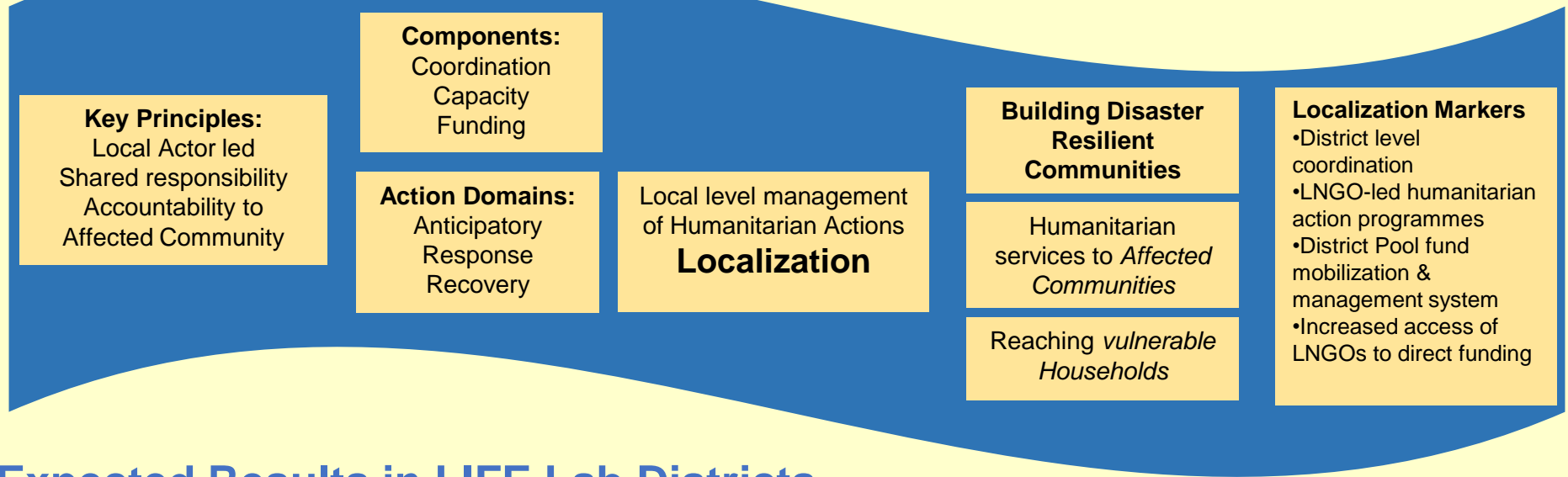


LIFE Lab Features @ 3-Dimensions

4 Lab districts: Barguna, Kurigram, Sirajganj & Sunamganj
 3 Domains: Anticipatory, Response and Immediate recovery
 3 Components: Coordination, Capacity and Funding

NAHAB Localization Roadmap

[Updated 2023]



Expected Results in LIFE Lab Districts

- Districts and Upazila level mapping of risks and vulnerabilities
- Mapping of Humanitarian Actors, Stakeholders in disaster-prone upazila
- Collectively prepared common list of vulnerable households in the pilot unions
- Increased number of capacitated Local NGOs directly access external humanitarian funding
- Collectively developed database of humanitarian volunteers in the selected districts and upazila
- Accounting process of local contributions is developed & integrated in the regular accounts & audit system
- Financing share of community philanthropy is gradually increased in humanitarian & development services
- Transparent management system of local humanitarian pool fund come from diverse sources is developed

Localization Lab Performance Indicators

Coordination

- Complementarity element of humanitarian actions is integrated in the performance monitoring system of all actors in the district.
- District level coordination among the Clusters and partners of Cluster-leads is visible.
- Local humanitarian contingency plans are collectively developed shared by all actors in the districts and upazila

Funding

- District Pool fund mobilization and management system is transparent and accountable.
- Increased access of LNGOs to direct funding for humanitarian actions.
- Ratio of local funding is gradually increased and external funding is reduced.

Capacity

- Focus of capacity strengthening investments are Organization Development of LNGOs
- Local actors demonstrate their financing share in humanitarian actions
- 100% LNGO-led humanitarian action programmes in the district.
- Quality standards of humanitarian services improved as per adapted CHS parameters.

LIFE Lab Component-wise Activities

Component 1: Coordination

- 1.1. Mapping vulnerabilities of the district and disaster-prone upazila. (Where the vulnerability mapping is already prepared by any agency, review and update those).
- 1.2. Endorsement of the vulnerability maps in the DDMC and UZMC meetings. [Where the endorsed maps are available, use of those maps]
- 1.3. Preparing upazila-wise geo-mapping of humanitarian actors and stakeholders. (Where the geo-mapping is already prepared by any agency, review and update those).
- 1.4. Upload the vulnerability maps and humanitarian actors' maps in the web-portal of the district and share the link to all actors as a ready reference information.
- 1.5. Prepare upazila-wise contingency plans for (a) Emergency preparedness, (b) Emergency response, (c) Emergency recovery.
- 1.6. Endorsement of the contingency plans in the DDMC and UZMC meetings. [Where the endorsed plans are available, use of those maps].
- 1.6. Upload all contingency plans in the web-portal of the district and share the link to all actors as a ready reference information.
- 1.7. Prepare a common list of vulnerable households in the most vulnerable union of the most vulnerable upazila in the district (to be selected as pilot union).

Component 2: Capacity

- 2.1. Study on the types and volumes of local contributions in all 3 domains of humanitarian actions – Anticipatory, Response and Recovery
- 2.2. Develop training module for institutional capacity development of local actors to account for these contributions.
- 2.3. Organize training of local actors on the accounting process of local contributions and integrate it in the regular accounts and audit system.
- 2.4. Mapping updated status institutional capacity of CBOs engaged in humanitarian actions in selected vulnerable upazila.
- 2.5. Organize OD training to the selected CBOs based on the identified capacity needs.
- 2.6. Facilitate linkage of humanitarian actors with local development NGOs including MFIs for emergency recovery support to disaster affected households.
- 2.7. Development of a pool of humanitarian volunteers in the disaster-prone upazila in coordination with CPP, providing training to them and prepare a open access database of volunteers.

Component 3: Funding

- 3.1. Development of a set of tools and techniques for transparent management (allocation, project selection, disbursement, utilization tracking) of district level humanitarian pool fund.
- 3.2. Fund mobilization training is provided to the district level actors to raise funds for Pool Fund from diverse sources.
- 3.3. Organizing local fund raising campaign at the district and upazila level
- 3.4. Approaching external donors for Seed Fund, Matching Fund, and Revolving Fund in the District Pool Fund.
- 3.5. Facilitate LNGO-led consortium formation for access to direct funding for humanitarian services in the relevant domains (preparedness, response and recovery).

Local Contribution Accounting Model Development

- In the humanitarian actions, by heritage the first responders are from the community, the neighbours of the affected people and the local organizations. Gradually the external supports come from the national and international actors. Present accounting system of humanitarian actions counts mostly the external funding, that represent a fraction of actual costs. Contributions from local actors and communities are seldom formally accounted for in the system.
- There is a need to develop a systemic accounting process to recognize financial values of local contributions. Study shows that there are systemic barriers and lack of consciousness on these aspects. Local Contribution Accounting Model will enable systemic inclusion of local contributions in the financial information and accounting management system.
- The model development process includes mapping diverse types and sources of local contributions, designing an accounting mechanism through defining the cost centres of local contributions, articulating the rational and validation formula of expenses from local sources, finally testing the tools and process of the system. This will be followed by training of actors and providing on-site support to practice the new model of accounting.
- Key output of the process would be development of an accounting model to count local and external contribution with equal importance. This will be used for advocating changes in the financial reporting system of humanitarian actions across the globe.

Localization Pool Fund

- NAHAB works to promote collective efforts of humanitarian actors at sub-national, national and international levels for mobilizing and accessing cash and in-kind resources by local actors as an important aspect for effective humanitarian response. From localization perspectives NAHAB precisely considers Pool Fund as a strategic choice to ensure faster real time support and service to the disaster affected community to meet emergency needs and earliest possible recovery from suffering.
- To facilitate timely funding to meet life-saving and humanitarian needs of the affected communities, NAHAB proposes to operate a local level pool fund at the district level with a back-up support from a national level fund service. The model of two-tier pool fund would enable continuity and accessibility to flexible and real time humanitarian fund by the local NGOs.
- NAHAB study on Pool Fund (2021) demonstrate that it ensures needs-based fund allocation decisions contributing to increased access to funding by local humanitarian NGOs at the right time and resulting better reach to affected people. It also provides fast and timely funding to promote early action and ameliorate the impact on communities and their living conditions.
- To facilitate uninterrupted fund flow from local pool fund to the affected communities, a back-up pool fund support at the national level is provisioned in this Pool Fund model.



Scope, Components and Approach

- Initially the scope of funding will be for emergency response only. Gradually building on the experience of effective fund management the scope will be widened to cover Disaster preparedness, Recovery and Rehabilitation supports. In all cases a common principle will be preference to inclusive response and development.
- There will be two components of this model of Pool Fund: (a) District level Pool Fund and (b) National level NAHAB Pool Fund services District Pool Fund services will be for the Local humanitarian NGOs of the district. The purposes are: (a) To meet their fund shortage during small and mid-type disasters, and (b) To support anticipatory response. The national level NAHAB Pool Fund Services will be built to provide support to the district pool fund management. The purpose is providing matching fund to facilitate faster response by LNGOs in the demonstration districts.
- The pilot phase will be implemented in two years – Year 1 will be to develop modalities and pilot testing of the concept, Year two will be for review modalities based on lessons and fine-tune the model for scale-up. The pilot sites of the project will be four lab districts of NAHAB – Barguna, Kurigram, Sirajganj & Sunamganj. These districts have been selected by NAHAB considering vulnerabilities and diversity in the types of disasters.

Fund Management

A coordinated, balanced and joint operational fund mechanism with built-in monitoring through establishing a three-tier fund management system:

A. Advisory Council – Strategic guidance for mobilization and usage of fund

B. Management Committee - Executive management and oversight of the fund, including bank account operation

C. Fund Management Committee - Review of grant applications and recommend allocation

Fund Sources

Multiple fund sources will be explored to build the Pool Fund at the local level and at the national level. At the district level the local NGOs will mobilize resources while at the national level NAHAB will mobilize resources. In both cases, a matching fund approach will be explored during fund negotiation. Following are few potential sources of fund that were suggested during NAHAB Café on Resource Mobilization.

- Bilateral/Multilateral donors and international funding agencies
- Government/Local government grants
- National/ International corporate agencies
- Expatriate Bangladeshi Community
- NGO's contingency fund
- Profit share/contribution from MFIs
- Contributions from philanthropists and professional bodies

Opportunities and Add Value Elements

Two strategic approaches in this model would contribute to its sustainability - Transparency in fund management through web-based data management and maintaining the fund through a separate bank account. The other positive factor in this approach is access to information by all member NGOs and related public entities. This approach would allow donors and philanthropists to maximize the value, flexibility and reach of un-earmarked funding for humanitarian actions. It would also demonstrate lower transaction costs with higher-quality response. Besides, it would provide an optimal solution for private donors who are unable to fund directly or assess local implementing partners.

For more information please contact us:

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