

LIC HFL SATHI

(School Assistance for Technical, Hardware and Innovation)

PROJECT

AN ESAF - LIC HFL RESPONSE TO KERALA FLOODS



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Introduction

Between June 1 and August 18, 2018, Kerala experienced the worst ever floods in its history since 1924. During this period, the state received cumulative rainfall that was 42% in excess of the normal average. The heaviest spell of rain was during 1-20 August, when the state received 771mm of rain. The torrential rains triggered several landslides and forced the release of excess water from 37 dams across the state, aggravating the flood impact.

According to the reports of the state government, 1,259 out of 1,664 villages spread across its 14 districts were affected. The seven worst-hit districts were Alappuzha, Ernakulam, Idukki, Kottayam, Pathanamthitha, Thrissur, and Wayanad, where the whole district was notified as flood-affected. The devastating floods and landslides affected 5.4 million people, displaced 1.4 million people, and took 433 lives (22 May–29 August 2018).

The Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) conducted by the United Nation has calculated the total loss suffered by the state in various sectors in the flood at Rs 31,000 crore. The potable water distribution to around 20 percent of the total population was affected and three lakhs of wells were either polluted or damaged in the flood. Around 1,74,500 houses were damaged either completely or partially.



About LIC HFL

Incorporated in 1989, LIC Housing Finance Ltd (LIC HFL) is one of the largest Housing Finance Companies in India with a key objective of providing long term finance to individuals for the purchase or construction of house/flat for residential purposes in India. LICHFL also provides finance on existing property for business/ personal needs and also gives loans to professionals for purchase/construction of Clinics/ Nursing Homes/ Diagnostic Centers/ Office Space and also for purchase of equipment. The Company also provides finance to builders and developers engaged in the business of construction of houses or flats for residential purpose and to be sold by them.



About ESAF

Evangelical Social Action Forum (ESAF), registered as a charitable society in the year 1992, was formed as a response to the various development gaps in society. ESAF is one among the pioneers to form women self-help groups and popularise microfinance towards financial inclusion and economic empowerment of the poor in India. As part of its development initiatives, ESAF has successfully developed community models in water and sanitation, disaster mitigation and management, health care, education, skilling and livelihood, etc. ESAF Group of Social Enterprises has impacted the lives of more than 3.5 million people in 12 states of India by creating livelihood opportunities.

ESAF Society, the implementing agency of the current project, is the non-profit arm of the group. ESAF Society works with government agencies, community bodies, national and international NGOs and leading corporate houses to deliver lasting change to the poor and marginalised, especially women and children. ESAF Society was also one of the primary respondents during the Kerala flood relief activities.

ESAF - LIC HFL RESPONSE TO KERALA FLOOD



Supported by :
LIC Housing Finance Limited



Implemented by :
ESAF Society, Thrissur



Project Budget :
₹ 1,59,16,250



Beneficiary groups:
15 Schools, 1 Tribal Hostel, 10 Anganwadis



Project location:
Thrissur District, Kerala

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Following the immediate flood relief activities, there was a dire need for resettlement and rehabilitation of the flood-affected communities. Reconstruction of social infrastructure was an inevitable area that needed prioritized intervention. ESAF and LIC HFL have envisaged this project to renovate and reconstruct the social infrastructure of the flood-affected areas in Thrissur district and reduce any future disaster risk by building the capacities of the local community. ESAF has directly implemented the project in the proposed schools and anganwadis in Thrissur district. The project was implemented in the proposed sites after carrying out a detailed baseline assessment on the existing conditions of the flood-affected schools and anganwadis. The data collection included detailed interviews of LSG members, Participatory Rural Analysis, site visit and collection of secondary data.

1.1 OBJECTIVES

- Reconstruct the damaged physical infrastructure of the schools, anganwadis and hostels in flood affected areas of Thrissur with disaster resilient design.
- Provide proper and adequate replacement for the damaged equipment.
- Build the capacity of the local community for sustainable DRR in future.



1.2 IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

- a. Identification and Selection – ESAF identified the list of flood-affected schools, anganwadis and a tribal hostel collaborating with the District Education Department and Social Justice Department, Government of Kerala. A preliminary assessment was conducted in the target institutions to understand the basic need.



- b. Need Assessment Study – A detailed need assessment study was conducted following the preliminary analysis. The erstwhile condition and needs were assessed in detail and a baseline analysis report was prepared. The data collection process included participatory rural appraisal, site visits and meetings with LSG members.



- c. Formation of Project Management Committee (PMC) - A project management committee was formed in each target institution which included the Principal, representative from the teaching staff, PTA representative and local leaders for the smooth implementation of the project.
- d. PMC meetings - Separate PMC meetings were conducted in all the target institutions for prioritizing the needs of each institution.



- e. Preparation and Finalization of Estimates – The estimates were prepared by the Engineers of ESAF Homes and Infrastructure and it was finalized after the meetings with PMCs.

- f. Selection of construction workers – The construction workers for the renovation activities were selected from the local area itself with the help of PMC.
- g. Commencement of construction activities – The construction activities were commenced in all the institutions post the approval from LIC HFL.



- h. Capacity building of schools and communities on disaster risk reduction – Capacity building training on disaster risk reduction was conducted in all institutions.



1.3

Sl No	Name of School	Details of Reconstruction Works	Details of Materials supplied
1	GUPS Chaipumkuzhy, Kodessery	Auditorium in first floor with GI roof truss. Side square net and GI stair Floor plastering	First Aid Box
2	G H S, Chaipankuzhy, Pulenkara(High School)	Construction of two hand wash areas for boys and girls. Renovation of kitchen including flooring, truss work, etc Girls bathroom tile work and painting. Making and fixing of gate grills	Water Purifier First Aid Box

3	G H S S, Chaipankuzhy, Pulkara (higher secondary)	Construction of Library and Reading Room on the first floor. Truss work over 2500 sq ft school roof.	Library Racks First Aid Box
4	Pre Matric Hostel, Vazhachal	Construction of a sick room having 250 sq ft area, column- beam structure with RCC roof finishing with cement primer on walls and rectified tiles for flooring. Bathroom for office including sanitary fittings and insulation of septic tank.	Table Two Coats Chair Kitchen Taps rectification First Aid Box
5	GHSS Pullut (high secondary)	Construction of Library and Reading Room.	Bench and Desk Rack for Library First Aid Box
6	GHSS Pullut (High School)	Toilet block Renovation Wash Area Renovation	Bench and Desk Drinking water Filter Unit First Aid Box
7	GLPS Paliyamthuruth	New Stage construction. Construction of Drinking water storage sump (7000 Ltr capacity) Repairing of Existing Rainwater harvesting Tank. False Ceiling in Office room Plumbing from existing source of water to new sump tank	Bench and Desk Water Filtering Unit First Aid Box
8	GGHS, Wadakkanchery	Construction of Compound wall and Painting Building renovation: Roof slab waterproofing works, Plastering of 3rd floor and White washing.	Water purifier First Aid Box
9	G H S S, Panjaal	Compound Wall Renovation around ground, 300 mtr length Compound Wall Behind Library and backside of School 52 mtr.	Water Filtering Unit First Aid Box
10	GHSS, Manalur	Plumbing line for drinking water and Kitchen for the entire school, Supplying and fixing of two water tanks. Construction of New Compound walls. Constructing Pillars and making and fixing of Gate.	Water Purifier First Aid Box

11	GHSS, Cherukunnu	Renovation of a classroom False ceiling works in an office room. Wooden Door for office room. Crack rectification in office room.Painting of Class rooms.	Water purifier First Aid Box
12	GHSS Kannattupadam, Varandarapally	Construction of Lunch hall + auditorium having 2200 Sq Ft Floor area.	
13	GUPS Anapuzha	New Compound wall Construction. Stair Room Painting School ground levelling Truss work for Walkway and wash area	Bench and Desk Water purifier Installing children slide 1 Nos First Aid Box
14	Government LP School Parappukkara	Construction of Auditorium Demolishing old damaged toilets and clearing the area.	Water Filter First Aid Box
15	GHSS Chalakudy	Auditorium renovation Drainage Leveling Interlock brick relaying Kitchen Painting Stage Renovation	First Aid Box
16	GLPS, Thozhupadam	Construction of Compound wall Renovation of Store Room	Desk & Bench First Aid Box



Before



After



Before



After



Before



After



Before



After



Before



After

1.4

Renovation and Reconstruction of Anganwadis		
Sl No	Anganwadi	Renovation work done
1	Balissery	<p>Interlock tile relaying</p> <p>Compound wall patch work, painting and Fixing Gate.</p> <p>Water drainage system for existing truss</p> <p>Sachithra Painting on walls.</p> <p>Aluminum cupboard</p> <p>Window shutter</p> <p>Wash area and Socket</p> <p>PVC paathy for truss work</p>
2	Kallur Chantha	<p>Truss work with GP pipes and Trafold sheets</p> <p>PVC pathy for truss work</p> <p>Side covering for with grills for after raising height</p> <p>Window shutter</p> <p>Aluminium shutter for cupboards</p> <p>Ventilator shutter</p> <p>Closing air holes</p> <p>Painting on walls</p>
3	Poovathussery	<p>Compound wall construction.</p> <p>Supply and Fixing of one Skin door for front door with painting.</p> <p>Supply and Fixing of one window frame with 2 aluminium shutters for Kitchen</p> <p>Shifting of Flag post</p> <p>Bathroom tiling</p>
4	Poovathussery	<p>Compound wall patching, painting and gate fixing.</p> <p>Making grill cover on existing well</p> <p>Sachitra painting on Walls</p> <p>Removing existing interlock tile, levelling and relaying the tile with baby metal</p> <p>Window frame corrections</p> <p>Wall cupboards inside with Aluminium</p>

5	Ambalanada	Compound wall construction. One soak pit One wash pit Supplying and Fixing Door shutter Supplying and Fixing Window shutter New Wash area construction
6	Aryamparambu	Compound wall construction. Supplying and Fixing of Gate for compound wall Supplying and Fixing of gate for Stair Relaying of interlock tile
7	Alathur	Compound wall construction Interlock tile relaying by levelling with baby metal Bathroom Ceiling Plastering Aluminium Cupboards Window Shutter
8	Vennur North	Compound wall basement plastering and full painting. Supplying and Fixing 2 window shutter Supplying and Fixing of bathroom door Levelling of sides with earth filling and removing wastes from the area
9	Ambalanada	Compound wall patch work and painting. Bathroom: Demolishing existing window inside toilet Fixing wall tile Supplying and Fixing Soak Pit Plumbing Aluminium Shutter
10	Ambalanada	Compound wall construction. Supplying and Fixing Gate.



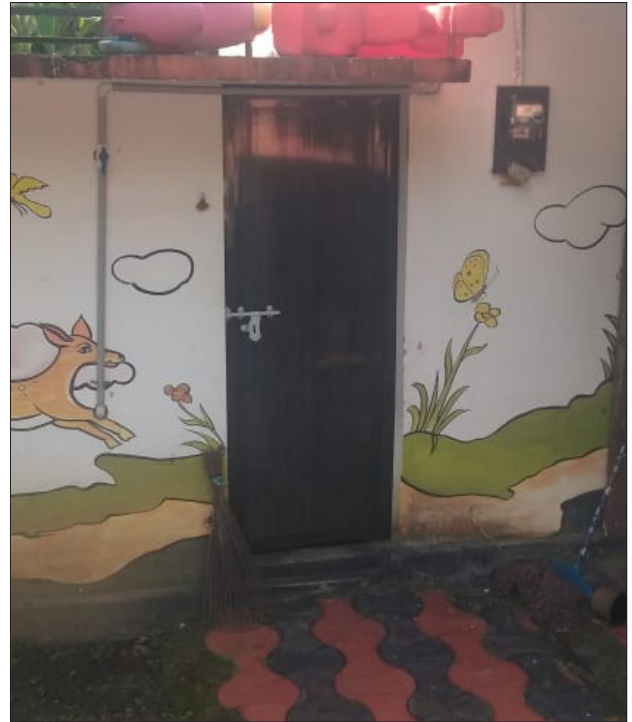
Before



After



Before



After



1.6 BUILDING THE DISASTER RESILIENCE OF SCHOOLS & COMMUNITY

The floods exposed the lack of preparedness and training at the community level for mitigating the impact of a disaster. After the floods, the Government of Kerala directed a committee to be formed at the school-level with the participation of students, teachers and PTA members.

This committee will lead activities like preparing an emergency exit plan, conducting mock drills, etc for reducing risk during a disaster on the school premises.

The school-based Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) training is based on the disaster vulnerability of the identified schools and nearby villages/regions. It focuses on creating public awareness through structured modules of training. The DRR training is coupled with disaster response and contingency planning of the schools to provide a solid platform for the community to absorb any future shock in the event of a disaster by staying prepared.



In contrast to the disaster response mechanism approach, early warning is one of many important tools that contribute to the prevention of disasters and preparedness for hazards and threats, of any kind. It greatly enhances disaster risk reduction. ESAP – LIC HFL understands the value of strengthening the knowledge of the community and promotes the role of the school safety committee in reducing risk at the community level. The focus is on advocating for knowledge from early warning systems that are accessed, understood and acted upon by local communities.

1.7 OBJECTIVES

Improve skills for preparation of school emergency plan and exit map.

Develop a plan for a student's participation.

Educate the roles and responsibilities of the school Emergency Support Committee to take lead during a disaster.

Strengthen the Emergency Response Committee through adequate maintenance of documents and conduct of Mock drills.

Disseminate lessons learned, best practices and challenges, in the post-disaster phase.



1.8 PARTICIPANTS

Teachers, PTA members, students of the School Safety Committee participated in the training. The area of training and number of participants are as follows:-

Sl. No	SCHOOLS	Total number of Participants
1	GUPS Anapuzha	113
2	GLPS Paliyamthuruthu	73
3	GLPS Cherukunnu	102
4	GGHS Wadakkanchery	62
5	GUPS Chaipunkuzhy	143
6	GGHS Chalakudy	172
7	GHSS Kannattupadam	174
8	GLPS Parappukara	121
9	GHSS Chaipankuzhy	232
10	GHSS Manalur	146
11	GHS Pullut HS	160
12	GHS Chaipankuzhy	173
13	Anganwadis	62
14	GLPS Thozhupadam	137
15	GHSS Pullut (HSS)	98
16	GHSS Panjal	209
	TOTAL	2177

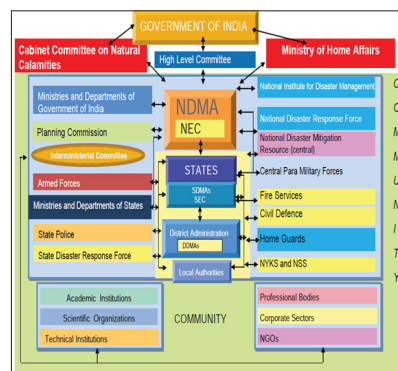
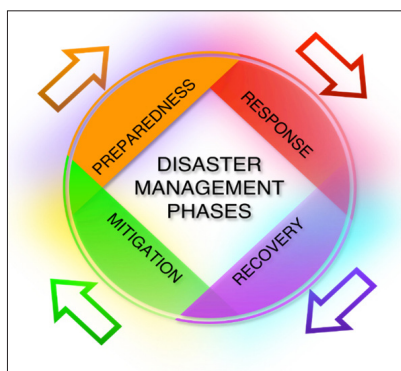


1.9 TRAINING SESSIONS AT SCHOOLS

The DRR training in schools had two components

1. Sensitization

A brief introduction on Disaster and various terminologies associated with disaster management were introduced to the students. It also explained the various phases of disaster management. The sessions were held in an interactive mode also utilising videos and presentations.



2. Preparation of school safety plan, map, mock drill

The members were divided into four groups for making the school safety plan and map. Each group was assigned specific tasks to do.

Group 1: Preparation of school map

Group 2: Preparation of road map

Group 3: Developing a questionnaire

Group 4: Collecting basic information of the school



The safety maps thus developed will be permanently displayed in the schools.



3. Preparation for mock drill

The mock drill sessions gave a hands-on experience to the participants on how to evacuate a place in very little time in the event of a disaster. The teachers were given proper instructions and they communicated to the students on how to respond when the alarm bell sounds.

The training session also covered topics like: Risk knowledge, Monitoring & warning service, Dissemination & communication, Response capability.



The School Safety Committee played an important role in the easy and smooth implementation of the DRR program with mock drill, as part of the guidelines issued by the Kerala Government. ESAF with the support of LIC HFL had provided adequate training to the School Safety Committee and performed a mock drill. Each school had a different scenario according to the terrain and requirements. The DRR training and mock drill were a first time experience to the school teachers, PTA members and students of the selected schools. Mock drills in the event of fire, earthquake, landslides, and floods were held in the schools.

TESTIMONIALS

Jimcy C Jose

ICDS Supervisor, Annamanada Grama Panchayat

"I was quite worried about the damage that the flood caused to the anganwadi. I took this up with the panchayat officials and the local government officials, but to no avail. As the need in the panchayat was huge, there was no way of getting funds sanctioned from the panchayat. The visit of the ESAF team rekindled hope in me. They prepared an estimate and made regular visits. The timely intervention of ESAF and LIC HFL team helped repair the damages of the anganwadi. It has given a fresh life to the anganwadi after the flood destroyed it. The Annamanada grama panchayat, ICDS supervisor and anganwadi members are eternally grateful to ESAF and LIC HFL for restoring our anganwadi."

Smitha Manual

Full Additional Charge of HM, Govt UP School, Chaipankuzhy

"Govt UP School, Chaipankuzhy is situated in a hilly region of Kodassery grama panchayat. We had witnessed the worst of the floods in our lifetime. Yet, amidst the crisis ESAF reached out to us. It is beyond our expectation that they helped construct a hall in our school. We are so thankful to ESAF and LIC HFL and we pray that God may bless the organisation."

CONCLUSION

ESAF LIC – HFL SATHI project has been successfully able to renovate and reconstruct selected flood-affected schools, hostel and anganwadis in Thrissur District. This has evidently impacted the overall educational and residential quality of the aforementioned institutions, as the children will be able to experience improved classroom infrastructure and hostel facilities. Apart from that, the project also facilitated WASH infrastructure and training to students, to improve their hygiene.

Furthermore, SATHI Project also initiated activities to build the disaster resilience capacity of the school community. This included workshops on disaster resilience and installation of evacuation maps in each school. In conclusion, ESAF and LIC HFL have been able to develop a disaster resilient and learning enabled ecosystem through the targeted interventions.

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