

CASE STUDY 1

“Restoring Hope after Cyclone Montha:

Emergency Relief Support to Vulnerable Tribal and Coastal Families in Narasapur Mandal,
Andhra Pradesh”

START NETWORK – 1021 Cyclone Montha Emergency Response

Project Title: "Emergency Response to Cyclone Montha Affected Families in Narasapur Mandal, West Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh – India"

Background: Cyclone Montha caused severe destruction in the coastal villages and ST (Scheduled Tribes) colonies of Narasapur Mandal, West Godavari District. Marginalized tribal and fishing communities lost temporary shelters, household materials, clothing, and essential assets due to heavy winds and rains. Families were forced to live in unsafe temporary shelters covered with tarpaulins, while many households struggled to access basic non-food items.

Rapid Assessment and Response: SNIRD, with the support of START NETWORK and IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation, conducted rapid assessments in the affected villages including Seetharamapuram ST (Scheduled Tribes) Colony and K. Navarasapuram ST (Scheduled Tribes) Colony. The assessment identified urgent humanitarian needs such as tarpaulins, blankets, sleeping mats, kitchen utensils, clothing, and emergency household kits. Relief support was provided to the most vulnerable families, particularly Scheduled Tribe households, women-headed families, elderly persons, and daily wage earners.



Distribution of emergency relief kits to affected families at K. Navarasapuram ST Colony.



Relief support distribution to vulnerable tribal families in Seetharamapuram ST Colony.

Impact of the Intervention: The emergency response initiative helped restore dignity and safety among cyclone-affected families. The relief kits reduced immediate hardships and supported families in protecting themselves from further exposure to rain and harsh weather conditions. The intervention also strengthened trust between humanitarian agencies and the affected communities through timely support and participatory engagement.

Community Voices: Community members expressed gratitude for the immediate humanitarian assistance, especially the tarpaulins and essential household materials that helped them survive during the crisis period. Women beneficiaries highlighted that the support reduced stress and enabled them to care for their children and elderly family members more safely.

Conclusion: The START NETWORK-1021 Cyclone Montha response demonstrated the importance of rapid humanitarian action for vulnerable coastal communities. The intervention addressed urgent needs and contributed to the resilience and recovery of cyclone-affected tribal families in Narasapur Mandal. Continued rehabilitation and livelihood restoration support remain critical for rebuilding the lives of affected households.



Damaged temporary shelters identified during the rapid assessment process.



Field team conducting rapid assessment and interacting with affected community members.

Beneficiary Responses

1. Mrs. K. Lakshmi (32 Years)

Mother of two children and daily wage worker from Seetharamapuram ST Colony

“Our temporary shelter was completely damaged during the cyclone, and we lost household materials and clothes. The tarpaulin, mats, and emergency kit provided through START NETWORK support helped us protect our children from rain and stay safely. We are thankful to START NETWORK, IHH, and SNIRD for standing with us during this difficult time.”

2. Mr. P. Suresh (45 Years)

Head of the family and fisherman from K. Navarasapuram ST Colony

“After Cyclone Montha, our family struggled without proper shelter and basic materials. The immediate relief support reduced our suffering and gave us confidence to recover. We sincerely thank START NETWORK, IHH and SNIRD for their timely humanitarian assistance.”

3. Mrs. M. Rajeshwari (28 Years)

Woman-headed household and caregiver for elderly parents

“The cyclone badly affected our family, and we had no resources to rebuild our temporary shelter. The emergency relief kit provided by the project was very useful for our survival. We express our heartfelt gratitude to START NETWORK, IHH, and SNIRD for supporting poor tribal families like ours.”

Acknowledgement and Gratitude

SNIRD expresses its sincere gratitude to **START NETWORK** for the generous humanitarian support extended under the Cyclone Montha emergency response initiative. The timely collaboration and humanitarian commitment of START NETWORK and IHH enabled affected families to receive immediate relief assistance, restore dignity, and strengthen their resilience during the crisis period.