

Case Study-3

Rising with Resilience:

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

Supported by START NETWORK with the coordination of India Humanitarian Hub (IHH)

Implemented by SNIRD (Society for National Integration through Rural Development)

Background

Cyclone Montha severely affected vulnerable communities in Narasapur Mandal of West Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh. Traditional weaver communities, Scheduled Tribe colonies, daily wage workers, women-headed households, elderly persons, and marginalized families experienced severe disruptions to livelihoods, shelter, hygiene, and household security. In response to the humanitarian crisis, START NETWORK, with the support of the India Humanitarian Hub (IHH), partnered with SNIRD (Society for National Integration through Rural Development) to implement a rapid and people-centered emergency response.

The intervention focused on restoring dignity, safety, hygiene, and resilience among affected families through:

- Distribution of 550 WaSH Kits for Traditional Weaver families
- Distribution of 550 NFI (Non-Food Item) Kits for vulnerable households
- Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) support of INR 4,500 through online transfers to 2,500 cyclone-affected families

The humanitarian response reached affected communities across Weavers Colonies, Station Peta, Arundathipeta, Saripalli, Kotha Navarasapuram ST Colony, Seetharamapuram ST Colony, and other vulnerable habitations in Narasapur Mandal.

Humanitarian Response Activities

- Community consultations and identification of vulnerable households
- Distribution of WaSH Kits to traditional weaver families
- Distribution of NFI Kits to cyclone-affected vulnerable families
- Impact monitoring and post-distribution monitoring (PDM) visits
- Online unconditional cash transfer support to highly vulnerable families
- Special focus on women, elderly persons, persons with disabilities, and Scheduled Tribe communities
- Unconditional Cash Transfers through online (UCT)

Beneficiary Responses and PDM (Post Distribution Monitoring)

Mrs. Lakshmi Devi – Traditional Weaver and Mother of Two Children: “After the cyclone, our household materials and bedding were damaged due to continuous rains and flooding. The WaSH kit and NFI materials supported by START NETWORK helped our family maintain hygiene and safety. The cash transfer support enabled us to purchase food items and medicines for our children. We sincerely thank START NETWORK, IHH, and SNIRD for standing with us during our difficult time.”

Mr. Ramu – Daily Wage Worker and Head of Household, ST Colony: “Our hut was damaged and we lost many household items during Cyclone Montha. The emergency response team visited our colony, understood our problems, and provided immediate support. The unconditional cash transfer of INR 4,500 helped us repair our shelter and buy essential provisions. We are grateful to START NETWORK, IHH, and SNIRD for treating us with dignity and care.”

Mrs. Sarojini – Elderly Woman from Weavers Colony: “I am an elderly widow and had no support after the cyclone. The relief materials and blankets provided through this project gave me comfort and confidence. The humanitarian team personally interacted with us and monitored whether we received the support properly. This response created hope among vulnerable families like mine.”

Photographs from the Field



Community gathering and awareness meeting with cyclone-affected families in Weavers Colony.



Distribution of NFI Kits to vulnerable elderly beneficiaries in Saripalli.



Distribution of relief materials to elderly cyclone-affected beneficiaries at Arundathipeta.



Women beneficiaries receiving NFI kits during emergency response activities.



Women and children receiving emergency NFI kits at Station Peta.



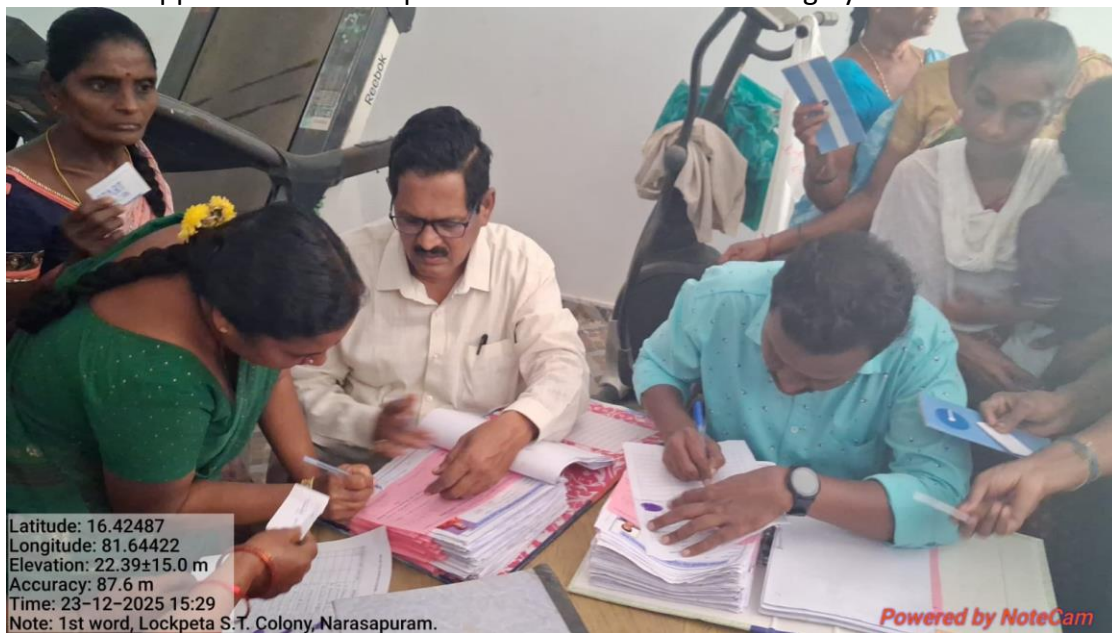
Beneficiaries receiving relief materials through organized humanitarian support.



Community participation during the relief distribution process.



Support extended to persons with disabilities and highly vulnerable families.



Documentation and acquaintance process for unconditional cash transfers.



Community verification and transparency process during cash transfer support.



Impact monitoring visit with affected families in ST Colony.



Household-level interaction with cyclone-affected women and children.



Distribution monitoring and beneficiary feedback collection.



Field-level humanitarian assessment and interaction with affected communities.



Awareness and coordination meeting with affected families and community leaders.



Public distribution event for WaSH and NFI Kits and awareness materials.



Women beneficiaries receiving WaSH kits in Weavers Colony.



Cyclone-affected women carrying relief kits distributed through the project.

Elderly beneficiaries receiving emergency humanitarian support.



Elderly beneficiaries receiving emergency humanitarian support.

Impact of the Intervention

The emergency response significantly contributed to restoring dignity, hygiene, and resilience among cyclone-affected families. The intervention enabled vulnerable households to access essential hygiene materials, household items, and immediate financial support.

The Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) findings indicated:

- Beneficiaries were satisfied with the quality and usefulness of the kits distributed
- Cash transfers helped families purchase food, medicines, school materials, and repair

damaged shelters

- Women and elderly beneficiaries appreciated the dignity-centered and transparent approach
- Community participation strengthened trust and accountability during humanitarian implementation

The initiative demonstrated how coordinated humanitarian action by START NETWORK, IHH, and SNIRD can create a new era in humanitarian response by ensuring timely, dignified, inclusive, and accountable support to vulnerable communities.

Acknowledgement

SNIRD expresses sincere gratitude to START NETWORK and India Humanitarian Hub (IHH) for their valuable support in responding to the needs of cyclone-affected families in Narasapur Mandal. This partnership created a meaningful humanitarian response model focused on dignity, inclusion, accountability, and resilience. The collective effort brought hope and confidence to vulnerable families during one of the most difficult periods following Cyclone Montha.