IMPACT EVALUATION OF THE ENHANCING RESILIENCE PROGRAMME

The programme

From ER to ER+
A joint Government WFP programme, ER aims to enhance the resilience of poor rural communities exposed to natural disasters and the effects of climate change.

Over 2 years, participants build community assets and take part in trainings in exchange for cash and food.

The ER and ER+ in Barguna was funded by LG Electronics (2011-2013).

Women from ER households get a cash grant for small-business investment during a 3rd programme year.

ER+ ER

Year 1 Jan-Jun

Community work

Training

Year 2 Jan-Jun

Community work

Training

Year 3 Jan-Dec

Cash grant + monthly allowance

Total 18,000 tk ($230)

The study

Are programme participants better able to deal with shocks and stressors like cyclone or flooding? That is what WFP wanted to find out.

The study looks into whether participants’ households are less likely to reduce family expenses or food consumption after a disaster and if they recover faster.

This is an innovative approach to understanding “resilience” from the food security perspective.

Study area

Southwest Bangladesh

4 unions under Patharghata upazilla of Barguna district

1000+ households

Results

ER participants are more resilient.
They reported faster recovery rates after five of the most common types of shocks/stressors; the positive result was statistically significant in the case of Cyclone.

The unavailability of baseline data made it difficult to confirm the positive impacts with greater certainty, so follow-up studies are recommended.

ER participants are less likely to engage in negative coping strategies than non-participants in 7 of 20 shock/response combinations, as illustrated to the right.

Likelihood to engage in detrimental responses (participants vs non-participants)

Reduce the level of family expenses

Take food

Change type of food consumed

Reduce food consumption

SERIOUS ILLNESS

CYCLONE

DEATH OF BIRDS AND HERD

LOSS OF LIVESTOCK

FLOODING

5.1% lower

5.1% lower

5.9% lower

8.0% lower

10.4% lower

11.1% lower

Positive effect, statistically significant

Positive effect, not statistically significant

Positive effect, statistically significant

No effect

Negative effect

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