

## Report of Cyclone 'Fani' Affected Communities in Odisha, India



The unexpected severe storm Fani happened in coastal areas of Odisha in mid summer and it affected the most of the communities in coastal Odisha. The destruction had touched the every villagers. The scene was terrible. Broken building, thatched houses were blown away, uprooted trees. Several power supply poles were twisted. Many families were



without power for several weeks. The Government department did a tremendous job in preparedness to evacuate people to a safer place from the vulnerable areas. Still many houses are not rebuilt. Many voluntary organizations and Govt. Department distributed reliefs and rehabilitation work in the community but still some of the communities are struggling to receive help. The state Govt. has done the work on war footing way. Many families were living in temporary houses. It took massive efforts for affected people to rebuild their lives.



The memory of devastation of Fani is still fresh in the minds of people in affected areas. Even though, a year has passed and people have slowly slowly moved on in their life, the painful memories of the 'Cyclone Fani' will remain in the minds of people. Still damaged thatched houses have been covered by polythene sheets and the survivors still awaiting support to live in a better condition.



Post Disaster is very much crucial for the communities to stand on their feet. This severe cyclone storm has impacted mental health of affected people those who have lost their property and livelihood. Its a big challenge to deal with the damage property and livelihood. People are affected directly and indirectly to children, youth, elderly with severe stress and anxiety. Several families are still struggling to recover from the trauma.

Bansidhar(name changed) is staying with his wife in his vallage Arakhkuda. He is from fisherman community. Basically his livelihood is fishing. In Fani, he lost house and also his livelihood. He was some psychological problems such as post traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety. It was severe after cyclone fani. He wasn't talking with anybody. His behavior became irrational. He roamed aimlessly here and there without saying to anybody at home. He was taking medicine from local doctor but he didn't cure and treatment was discontinued.



Though our intervention, Volunteer identified this issue and discussed with his wife. Volunteer referred him to go to psychiatric doctor. Then his wife took him to the doctor. Doctor diagnosed and prescribed for medicine. Now treatment is going on. He is taking medicine regularly. His wife is taking care of her. He began to recover. He is thankful to the donor and Global Giving for their support. With this support, Bansidhar to realize that he is not alone and has nothing to be worried. He is involving in social activity in the community. He has started his work. Due to lockdown of covid-19, he is safe at home.

Karan (Name changed) lives with his parents and wife in Bhagabanpur village of Puri District, Odisha. His family is moderate. After the cyclone of Fani, he was depressed. Always that disaster scene came in his mind. He was dormant, he wasn't talking with anybody. Even not taking bath in time and regularly. It happened all of a sudden. He was suffering from panic disorder, sleep disturbance, aggression and self talking. He stopped talking with others and started mental health problem.



Through the intervention, volunteer identified this issue and counseled him and his family members. After observing the symptoms of Karan, he referred to mental health dept, Puri to consult the doctor and for treatment. Then he went with his family members to the hospital. Doctor diagnosed and given medicines. Now he is under treatment and improved. He is now much better than before. He is involving in household work. He is attending prayer meeting in the community. Slowly he is getting active. He is thankful to the supporters and Global Giving for their support.

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