

UNITED EVANGELICAL LUTHERN CHURCHES IN INDIA (UELCI)
INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT OF WEAKER SECTIONS IN INDIA (IRDWSI)
ANDHRA PRADESH CYCLONE
FINAL REPORT OCTOBER, 2002
ACT APPEAL NUMBER: ASIN – 14

1. INTRODUCTION:

1.1. Description of the Emergency

The 17th of October 2001 was a fateful day for the villages of the Nellore, Cuddapah District, when the cyclonic rain caused havoc in the entire region of the Gudur Division. Deep depression created in the Bay of Bengal intensified into cyclonic storm with the wind velocity of 75 km per hour.

The Cyclone caused incessant rains with the record of 350 mm within 24 hours that resulted in the high flow in the many rivers (Telugu Ganga, Pennar, Kaivalya, Swarnamukhi, Kalingo, Pamulkaiva etc) that are running down the East and falling in the Bay of Bengal. The Somsila river which is a major river in the region has two major dams in Nellore District namely Somsila dam and Kandaleru. Kandaleru dams supplies water to the many water tanks located in many villages for the purpose of irrigation. Along the bunds of the water tanks the human habitation flourished, by the communities of Tribals and the Dalits. Besides, these villages were very near to the water tanks.

On the eventful day, 48 hours heavy downpour resulted in the high over flow of the major and minor rivers, which could not contain the alarming height of water level. As many places in the region are also low-lying area, it was under rainwater within hours of raining. The locals claimed that such downpour had not occurred since long past. This resulted in the submergence of the villages and human habitation. People residing along the bunds were forced to stay under water for the long 48 hours as the rescue and the relief assistance reached very late.

Description of Damage and Loss



The loss was colossal. The following illustrates the gravity of the damage suffered.

- 1,16,076 hectares of land has been directly affected (with 1,08,771 hectares of standing crop directly damaged and 7,305 hectares of soil erosion taken place)
- 108 persons reported to have lost their lives and 21 missing.
- 650 livestock lost (apart from the other domestic livestock). Animal Husbandry reported total loss at Rs. 85.37 lakh.
- More than an estimated of 87,975 houses damaged
- Under Irrigation and PR sources, 1771 tank breaches were reported,
- 505 drinking water schemes directly affected.
- 1596 roads connecting the villages with the main roads and the highways have been damaged and traffic has been totally disrupted.
- 1435 municipalities directly affected in the power supply sector, with estimated loss of Rs.2451.58 lakhs.

- 61 Hospitals, 192 PHCs and 2468 Sub centres were damaged, valued at estimated Rs. 5213.55 lakhs.
- The State Government reported the total damage at Rs. 924 crores.

The worst sufferers were the Tribals and the Dalits.

Response by UELCI Partners

1.2. Implementing Partners

Description of ACT Member: United Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India (UELCI), Chennai, Tamilnadu, is an umbrella organisation of all the 10 Lutheran Churches in India. Integrated Rural Development of Weaker Sections of India (IRDWSI), Semiliguda, Koraput District, Orissa is a project of Divisional Social Action of UELCI.

Description of ACT Member's Implementing Partners: IRDWSI of UELCI is the project applicant, it is closely working in the implementation of relief and rehabilitation programme activities with the organisations based in different cyclone affected areas.

Under the ASIN 14 project the 3 NGOs have been implementing the programme according to the schedule and uniformly. They are

Constant Service in Developing Education and Rural Reconstruction (CONSIDER), Bapatla
Community Association for Rural Development (CARD), Mannapolur, Sullurpet
Rural Reconstruction and Development Society (RRDS), Sydapuram, Nellore District

The non-food items like mats and lantern have been distributed to the targeted beneficiaries. The implementation of livelihood support programme was implemented in a participatory method. The livestock were chosen by the beneficiary themselves.

1.3. Goals and Objectives

Goals

The overall goal is to alleviate the suffering of the affected poor dalit and tribal families and strengthening their livelihood and food security systems, linking the relief and rehabilitation to the development process.

Objectives

To meet immediate need of food to the affected families.

To provide needed non-food items like clothes and blankets.

To extend traditional house building materials to the families whose houses are damaged.

To provide opportunity to reclaim the agriculture fields through agriculture assistance.

To facilitate livelihood support to farming and non-farming families for generation of employment and economic stability.

To promote potable water and sanitation measures.

To undertake social forestry among the affected villages.

1.4. Time frame of the programme Implementation

The period of implementation of activities of the Appeal from November 2001 to October 2002

2. GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

It has been noted that 285 communities in 32 Mandals out of 76 Mandals of Nellore, Chittoor, Cuddapah were worst affected.

he selected villages under the ASIN 14 project fall in 9 Mandals of Nellore

Pradesh. These villages are 70 to 100 km. far from the district headquarters and area map as Annexure)

	District	Block/Mandals		Families
1		8	43	
2	Guntur		2	100
	2		45	

3. CURRENT OVERALL STATE OF EMERGENCY

Even after several months passed by it has been noticed that people have not been supported thatched huts. Lack of support has aggravated their miseries and suffering. They live in uncertainty

means for earning. They are neither able to go the cities nor can find local employment. Hence lack of economic support.

With lack of employment and the economic support the communities are facing health problems.

some places health camps were organised after the disaster, there was no follow up for second time.

Similarly rebuilding of the infrastructur breached did not receive enough attention for strengthening their bunds. It poses risk for future eventuality.

The roads are still under the dilapidated condition. Many communities still face saf problems. If water problem is not solved, the current monsoon will add to their list of diseases. Concentrated effort of agencies and the government is still needed to those families who have r life.

The Tribal and SC families who do not even possess land for housing will face the uncertain wrath of the monsoon. If proper and regular attention is not paid to them then they will be left in a state

4.

-DIRECT ASSISTANCE

4.1. Food for work:

The objective of the programme was to generate minimum food

rate 30 days per two adults in a family, with the available families at the rate of 45 days per family.

As proposed 3 Kg. of Rice, 0.5 Kg. of Dal and 200ml oil etc total costing Rs.107/ was provided per family per day.



Achievements in terms of shelter construction, site leveling, roads formation and repair, canal bund

Food for work:

District	Name Of The Mandal	Name Of The Village	Covered	beneficiaries	Days Covered	Types of Support/beneficiary/day
Nelloore	Guduru	Vemula Palem	1	15	1350	Rice. 3 kg+Dal-500 gms+oil 200ml. Total Cost Rs.107/-
		Venkatagiri	2	27	2430	
	Nayudupeta	Jangalapalli		19	1710	
		Juwala palem	6	34	3060	
		Srinivasa		20	1800	
		Muniratnamnagaram		35	3150	
		Pandluru		34	3060	
		Kattakinda palem		23	2070	
		Kattameeda palem		25	2250	
	Syda Puram	Anthamadugu	5	46	4140	
		Vemalachedu		40	3600	
		Ramasagaram		25	2250	
		Sydapuram		40	3600	
	Chillakuru	Cheekavolu		35	3150	
		Dadichettipalli	2	20	1800	
	Peladuru	Nallayagaripalem		35	3150	
		Kothur	4	31	2790	
		Chithapoodi		20	1800	
		punabaka		10	900	
	D.V. Sathram	Yenukala colony		7	630	
Thallampadu		1	40	3600		
Sullurupeta	Nadellavarikandriga	2	10	900		
	Kotapolusu		28	2520		
			23	619	55710	

4.2. Non Food Relief Assistance

The distribution of non food items like mats and lantern have been distributed to the targeted beneficiaries.

Apart from food assistance, 416 families were provided with lanterns and mats, cloths to 30 families and books, slates distributed to children's of 40 families.

Physical outcomes of Food For Work”

Sl.	Details of Activities	Numbers
1	Road formation	8
2	Canal bund repair	1
3	House site levelling and construction	619
4	Bore wells	4



4.3. Material Support for Shelter

Shelter materials not for permanent construction were planned to give 1800 families to those families whose houses were either partially or fully collapsed. However, we could assist only 618 families with shelter materials. Where as in some villages people were managed to get remaining help from the government to construct permanent houses, in such cases we have provided assistance up to basement level.



Details of Shelter support

Sl	District	Mandals	No. of families	Nature of support per family	Avg. Cost/ family
1	Nelloor	Guduru	15	Bamboos. 60 nos., Roaps 10 bundles, Palm leaves 800 per house, Poles 22 nos., Cement, Skilled labour, sand, nails and doors,stone flooring100Sft.	5200
2		Venkatagiri	46	Bamboos. 60 nos., Roaps 10 bundles, Palm leaves 800 per house, Poles 22 nos., Cement, Skilled labour, sand, nails and doors	
3		Nayudupeta	171	Bamboos. 60 nos., Roaps 10 bundles, Palm leaves 800 per house, Poles 22 nos., Cement, Skilled labour, sand, nails and doors,stone flooring 100Sft.	
4		Sydapuram	161	Bamboos. 60 nos., Roaps 10 bundles, Palm leaves 800 per house, Poles 22 nos., Cement, Skilled labour, sand/mud 4 trucks, nails and Doors(20)	
5		Chillakuru	80	Bamboos. 60 nos., Roaps 10 bundles, Palm leaves 800 per house, Poles 22 nos., Cement, Skilled labour, sand, nails and doors(12)	
6		Pelakuru	68	Bamboos. 60 nos., Roaps 10 bundles, Palm leaves 800 per house, Poles 22 nos., Cement, Skilled labour, sand/ mud 4 trucks, nails	
7		D.V.Sathram	40	Cement 8 bags, Steel 18 rods, Bricks 1950, Sand two Trucks	
8		Sullurpeta	38	Bamboos. 60 nos., Roaps 10 bundles, Palm leaves 800 per house, Poles 22 nos., Cement, Skilled labour, mud 4 trucks, nails	
			619		

4.4. Support to Livelihood: The implementation of livelihood support programme was implemented in a participatory method. The livestock were chosen by the beneficiary themselves.

Fishing Nets

As per the proposal, 100 families were to be covered, however, we were able to give 101 nets to 101 families.



Sl	Area	No. of Nets
1	<u>Guduru</u>	36
	1. Vemula palem	
	<u>Venkatagiri</u>	
	1. Juwala palem	
	4. Srinivasa puram	
	5. Muniratnamnagaram	
2	<u>Sydapuram</u>	25
	1. Ramasagaram	
	2. Sydapuram	
	<u>Chillakuru</u>	
	1. Nallayagaripalem	10
	Total	101

Weaving materials : In Jangapalli villages of Venkatagiri Mandal , 100 families were assisted with weaving materials to restart the weaving occupation.

Livestock:

Livelihood support was provided to 600 families covering three mandals. The beneficiaries had chosen goat or sheep etc. worth of Rs.2000 according to their importance.



Sl.	Mandal	Village	Families
1	Guduru	1. Santhadasupalli	34
		2. Kotha colony	21
2	Venkatagiri	1. C.R. Pally	35
3	Nayudupeta	1. Muniratnamnagaram	34
		2. Pandluru	35
		3. Kattakinda palem	16
		4. Kattameeda colany	25
4	Sydapuram	1. Cheekavolu	26
		2. Ananthamadugu	56
		3. Vemulachedu	46
5	Chillakuru	1. Nallayagari Palem	44
		2. Thippaguntapalem	16
		3. Dadichetti Palli	12
6	Peladuru	1. Kothur	27
		2. Chithapoodi	25
		3. Punabaka	25
		4. Yerukala colony	25
		5. C.N.Peta	20
7	D.V.Sathram	1. Modugulapalem	25
8	Sullurupeta	1. Nadellavarikandruga	25
		2. Kotapolusu	28
Total			600

4.6. Health & Medical Inputs

Medical care was provided to the people with the help of a team of health workers and doctors. The team visited the villages and provided necessary assistance to the people in the affected areas. During the Health camps the targeted villages participated. Apart from these villages the people from the nearby villages too joined. The pregnant women and the children and the sick people had been attended to with medical care. More than 3837 people had attended the medical camp from 28 villages of which some were down with different diseases had been given with respective medications.



Details of Health Camp

SL.	District	Name of the Mandal	Name of the Village	Health camps conducted	No. of people covered
1	Nelloore	Guduru	Vemula Palem	1	40
2		Venkatagiri	C.R. pally	1	71
			Jangalapalli	1	102
3		Nayudupeta	Juwala palem	1	75
			Srinivasapuram	1	73
			Muniratnamnagaram	1	92
			Pandluru	1	57
			Kattakinda palem	1	78
			Kattameeda colony	1	75
			Syda Puram	1	210
4		Syda Puram	Anthamadugu	1	210
			Vemalachedu	1	135
			Ramasagaram	1	75
			Syda puram	1	120
			Cheekavolu	1	185

SL.	District	Name of the Mandal	Name of the Village	Health camps conducted	No. of people covered
5		Chillakuru	Dadichettipalli	1	65
			Nallayagaripalem	1	105
6		Peladuru	Kothur	1	257
			Chithapoodi	1	360
			Punabaka	1	256
			Yenukala colony	1	213
			C.N.Peta	1	239
7		D.V. Sathram	Thallampadu	1	211
			Modugulapalem	1	326
8		Sullurupeta	Nadellavarikandriga	1	268
			Kotapolusu	1	149

Details of Health Activities

The following table illustrated the number of beneficiaries benefited from the programmes completed.

SI	Particulars	Numbers
1	Wells Disinfected	8
2	Ponds Disinfected	5
3	Village Drains Cleaned – Villages	16
4	Medicines Provided – Villages	28
5	Health Camps – Times	28

Beneficiaries Details

S.No	Mandal	No. Villages	Total Families	Dalitis	Adivasis	Others
1	Guduru	3	161	71	55	35
2	Venkatagiri	2	135	35	0	100
3	Nayudupeta	6	202	60	132	10
4	Sydapuram	5	223	136	87	0
5	Chillakuru	3	183	129	54	0
6	Pellakuru	5	159	96	63	0
7	D.V. Sathram	2	81	41	40	0
8	Sullurupeta	2	64	0	64	0
	Total	28	1208	568	495	145

5. DISASTER PREPAREDNESS -RIGHTS AND ADVOCACY

628 community members and volunteers from 28 villages had been given training to overcome the water contamination, bad drainage and surroundings due to cyclones. Preparedness concepts of vulnerability factors, coping mechanisms of early warnings, rescue, first aid, post emergency and shelter management, etc were dealt with the committees in the communities. The NGOs are trained in the technical aspects of disaster preparedness and response by CONSIDERS which is implementing a Community Based Disaster Preparedness programme in 110 coastal villages.

The issues of land rights for better habitations and needed Community based contingency plans have been addressed and initiated at the local level Govt. and people based institutions.

Through Advocacy process pressure was put up on the local Government officials to provide permanent housing support to the affected and vulnerable people.

6. IMPLEMENTATION METHODOLOGY

Personnel:

All the three organizations have appointed 3 full time staff in the field in their own selected target areas. There is one Field Coordinator, and two field supervisors. The selected villages are divided between the two field level supervisors. Besides there are 10 Volunteers selected locally to assist in the implementing process.

Number and type of Staff/Volunteers

Staff Details & Volunteers	Total
Coordinator	1
Field Co-ordinators	4
Field Supervisors	6
Volunteers	28
Total	38

Project administration:

The Programme Coordinator operates from Bapatla while the field Coordinators and supervisors are stationed in the field areas and villages. They are supported by the local volunteers and the Village level relief committees in the implementation of the programme. The vehicles are hired for the mobility of the personnel and the materials.

7. PROCUREMENT OF MATERIALS:

The non food items like the mats and the lanterns were procured regionally from the near by town. These materials are commonly and easily available in the towns. The transportation cost was minimized.

For the livelihood support programme, the people were involved in the purchases of the livestock. The beneficiaries themselves selected the livestock according to their choices in the local markets. These livestock were distributed among the beneficiaries during the village meetings in the presence of the people's representatives and the government officials.

8. PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING:

Implementing the programme:

The Programme coordinator looked after the entire programme. He kept regular touch with the Head office and the Chief Programme Coordinator. The programme coordinator in the field was responsible for the supervision of the implementation of the programme.

He was also mainly responsible for the procurement of the materials, their transportation and their storage till their distribution. The field supervisors were responsible for the mobilizing community members, arranging meeting. They had also meetings with the officials concerned and the distribution of the materials have taken place in their presence. All the targeted villages have Relief Action Committees, which were very much involved in the consensus building, decision making and mobilizing the community members.

Monitoring of the programme:

The entire programme was monitored by UELCI/IRDWSI with the implementing partner NGOs from the field offices. Regular monitoring meetings at the UELCI/IRDWSI level and NGOs level were conducted and decisions were made collectively based on the field realities. The field supervisors reported to the programme coordinator on the progress made on the activities. In turn the volunteers who extended information needed for planning supported the field supervisors. They have also planed out the activities together with the field supervisors and always dealt the issues in partnership with the village level Relief Action Committee. The list of the beneficiaries was maintained and their signatures were obtained on the delivery of the goods/supports.

Meetings were held between UELCI and Project partners during the project period to assess and planning/monitoring the programme activities.

In the month of March 2002, a two day meeting of the UELCI partners was convened at Visakhapatnam to discuss and prioritise the programmes based on the money received from ACT.

In the month of May 2002, the UELCI consultant visited the areas of ASIN 14 to assess the implementation of the activities and after the report from the consultant the second installment money was released.

In the month of June a second meeting of the UELCI partners was organised to discuss on the progress of the activities, reporting guidelines was shared and the visit of Mr Evert Bodegam of ACT Netherlands was informed.

The UELCI coordinator incharge of emergency along with a consultant visited the field areas of ASIN 14 in the first week of July and nearly 10 villages were covered. A UELCI partners meeting was organised in July 2002 and was informed to close the project as no money was coming in for the Appeal ASIN 14.

In July 2002, Mr. Evert Bodegam, from ACT Netherlands and Ms Jessie made a two day visit to the ASIN 14 areas. After the visit a meeting with the partners was organised at Gudur, Andhra Pradesh.

In July 2002, Mr. Evert Bodegam, from ACT Netherlands and Ms Jessie also met the Executive Secretary of UELCI at Chennai.

A final meeting in the month of September, 2002 was organised to receive reports from the partners and future plans in the region.

Impact of the programme:

With the support of the above mentioned relief assistance the living condition of the people has been improved. The Yanadi tribals, being the lowest rung of the Society who live in tiny huts and abject poverty, are living in a far better and secured traditional huts with an appropriate environmental sanitation and sufficient living place.

In certain cases, issues like permanent land sites for habitation was taken up and the people were organized and motivated among them to deal with the Government officials for necessary arrangements. People and NGOs together, have succeeded in obtaining the land rights for permanent habitation for communities (Dalits and Adivasis) such as C R Palli, Kotapoluru, Ramasagaram and Sydapuram and Nadellavari Kandriga.

Most of the Yanadi tribal families are now having a lantern and a proper mat to sleep. The Yanadi tribals who are engaged in the fishing activities have been supported with the fishing nets. These people have been able to resume their livelihood activities with support provided. It has strengthened their hope to make a comeback to the previous state.

The dalit and Yanadi tribal communities supported with the livestock have got improved scope of income generation. Further, the communities have resolved to revolve the livestock support for sustained source of revolving fund with in the community by paying back the support extended to them.

The weaving community has been supported with the weaving materials. The others have been supported with the livestock. The reconstruction of the traditional housing is completed. With this strategic plan of activities the communities have been enabled to rebuild their lives with a better scope for future.

The health camps were also instrumental in building up of health awareness, screening and treating of the many water born diseases. The medical assistance provided to the needy, pregnant mothers, children and the sick has enabled the people to realize the ailments and improve their status of health with further follow up and referral services.

Impact Analysis

- Disinfections were done in needy villages and water bodies were treated. Patients were treated and referred for different diseases and cases of diseases were reduced.
- 55620 persons days could be created benefiting at least 619 families in 23 villages.
- 619 families could be supported to rebuild their shelters in 23 villages.
- 101 nets provided to 101 families in 8 villages could rebuild their sources of livelihood.
- 100 weaver families could be rehabilitated through support for repairing the looms and procuring the raw materials in 1 village.
- 600 families were provided with livestock in building their livelihood support systems.
- 4 communities received regular safe drinking water sources (Bore wells)

Success of the programme:

The programme has been accomplished as per the plan. The target beneficiaries have been covered successfully under the programme. The selection of the village level volunteer and the formation of the Relief Action Committee in the villages helped the speedy implementation of the programme. The field staff has also received the cooperation of the government officials. They have participated in the meetings and distribution of the goods to the beneficiaries. The people's response was very encouraging and positive to the awareness creation and working towards rebuilding the villages. Till date there have been no such hurdles that have come on the way to disturb the execution of the planned activities. The livelihood support mechanism of livestock, weaving materials, etc is being revolved as sustainable system leading the rehabilitation initiatives to a long term process of development.

Lessons Learned:

The experience of the involving the beneficiaries in the decision making while finalizing types of housing material they would need, the choice of the livestock etc was well received and appreciated. It yielded good responses and the people were ready to take up other developmental activities on their own. The formation of the village level Relief Action Committee was very useful in arriving at consensus and mobilizing community members. The members of the communities are able to articulate if chance is given to them. The transparency in implementing the programme in partnership with the people will always unite them and generate needed strength to take up issues related to the rights of the people.

It is also learned by the people that the social pressure from rich neighboring communities can be tackled in an appropriate manner utilizing available legal institutions.

The involvement of the government officials wherever and whenever possible also helped the smooth implementation of the programme. Besides, it helped to gain credibility of the NGOs activities among the communities and Government Authorities.

It is learnt that people will have improved living conditions if the development initiatives such as revolving resources through livelihood support mechanism are built up as it is done in the project.

9. COORDINATION WITH GOVERNMENT & NGOS

At the initial stage with the help of local organization surveyed and identified the communities for the support. However these NGOs together have coordinated and collaborated with government and other NGOs in the following area:

1. They participated in the meetings organized by the NGOs to share the information on the emergency and plan for the implementation of the programme.
2. They have provided information on the families who are receiving little or no attention to the government. The PHC doctors have been informed of the people needing medical attention and have facilitated the process of medical care delivery.
3. Even during the Health Camp organized by the NGOs together the government officials were involved. With their help pregnant women were provided with the prenatal care. The children

having nutrition deficiency were provided with the vitamin tablets. The people identified with ulcer, TB, Fever etc were assisted with medical care.

4. Awareness camps were also organized by the joined effort by the NGOs. The people were motivated to take up precautionary measures by putting bleaching powder in the contaminated ditches and wells. As a result of awareness camp people took up cleanliness drive in the communities.

10. VISIT OF ACT REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Evert van Bodegom the representative of ACT Netherlands and Ms. Jessie from ACT, Geneva visited the cyclone-affected areas to assess the activities of ASIN – 14, in July 21-22, 2002.



Conclusion

As per the Appeal ASIN – 14 which was supposed to begin in November 2001, actually began in March 2002 as the funds transferred only in January 2002. Subsequently we had requested ACT to extend the programme till 30 June 2002. However, the work was completed in September 2002 and we could close the file of ASIN 14 appeal only in October 2002. Out of the total appeal of USD 387,921 ACT could receive only 39.16% that was sent to UELCI/IRDWSI account. We are thankful to Church of Sweden Aid, United Methodist Committee on Relief, Presbyterian Church of Canada, ACT Netherlands and Anglican Church of Canada. We also thank ACT for their continuous cooperation and support to this Appeal.

William Stanley
UELCI
October, 2002