COVID 19 RESPONSE
BY
IGSSS and its Partners
7th Report (13th May 2020)

INDO GLOBAL SOCIAL SERVICE SOCIETY
28, Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
Present Scenario – Macro Level

Macro-Level Picture: Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his fifth address to India during the Coronavirus pandemic shared an economic package of worth Rs 20 Lakh crore – ten percent of the GDP, as a stimulus for strengthening the economy. He also hinted that after 17th May 2020 the lockdown may continue but it will be based on the assessment and decision of the state governments.

In this lockdown when our economy is struggling and all our workers are facing towards uncertain future, few state governments (Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Odisha and Punjab) decided to make significant changes in the present labour law. The boldest changes are made by Uttar Pradesh government when they suspended the application of almost all labour laws in the state for the next three years. The changes in the labour law will impact the lives and livelihood of the poor workers. Meantime, we see hundreds of thousands migrant workers have taken to the street and walking thousands of miles back home. They have lost faith in everything and have decided to walk even though their feet bleed. Reverse migration is a reality now. Shortly, rural infrastructure and rural economy will not be the same. It will change and so will the lives and livelihood of the rural people.

Way Forward: The government and Civil Society Organisations together need to plan out things to support rural people for sustainable livelihood. India is gearing up for monsoon season and rural community for agriculture activities. Hence the poor farmers and people associated with agri-based activities need support. The livestock, which is one of the important assets for rural people also needs to be protected.

IGSSS and its Partner NGOs’ response:

Immediate Relief work: IGSSS and its Partners through relief work will be reaching out to 17,346 families across 14 states of India covering both rural and urban communities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reaching out</th>
<th>No. of Households</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban locations</td>
<td>12,629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural locations</td>
<td>4,717</td>
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IGSSS is directly coordinating the relief work in Delhi but in all other states, we are coordinating with the network of 24 partner NGOs. Till date, we supported relief work worth 1.31 crore INR.

Beside relief work, IGSSS team and its partners are generating awareness on Handwashing Practices maintaining Physical Distancing.
Ration and sanitation kit distribution in Allahabad

Ration and sanitation kit distribution in Lucknow

COVID Relief distribution at Basna Block, Chhattisgarh
Dry ratio was being delivered to PWDS person in Dasamantapur block, Koraput, Odisha.

Dry ration was being distributed to 400 tribal families in Dasamantapur, Koraput, Odisha.

Besides relief work, IGSSS and its partners are supporting poor and marginalised people in accessing government schemes.

NGO Partner in Khapri village, Block Ahwa in Dang District, is engaged with the landless families gathering the information on the availability of supporting documents needed for accessing the services and schemes of the government.

NGO partner mobilizing community to write a Request Letter to the SDM on Providing Ration to the families those who don’t having the documents and recently migrated to villages.
Beside Relief work, IGSSS is reaching out to people for training and awareness through virtual mode

IGSSS is conducting interactive sessions on different topics related to COVID-19 pandemic for its community leaders through Zoom who in turn disseminate the information in his/her village. Despite all the constraints, the time and effort invested in making the people learn about the advantage of technology and adopt it has paid off as the number of interested participants joining in this awareness are gradually increasing. IGSSS is also encouraging its partner NGOs to start similar online interactive sessions with the community.

IGSSS has till date conducted almost 14 virtual sessions through an online platform. On average, each session was attended by 20 community people from different parts of the country.

Recently in North East, IGSSS decided to organize a session on “Creating a Supportive Environment and Home Care for a Quarantined person” on 11th May 2020. This topic was chosen as many migrant workers are returning home for the last month. in the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Kumur Uddin, the Head Master of Kasukati LP School, was enthralled to join the meeting over Zoom. He said that he could learn many things that he was unaware before and he is now confident that he could spread the right information to people around.

Abdul Baten, the Head Master of Amguri LP School, said that as the sessions were interactive and conducted in vernacular language, people could understand the messages. He further said that he could clear some the myths associated with the disease.

Support to migrant workers from different states (stranded in Delhi): IGSSS staff also makes an effort to connect with the community through virtual mode during this period of lockdown to support them with information related to accessing government schemes and any other support. Government of Jharkhand has initiated State Covid-19 GO-CSO Collab Response Facility for engaging Civil Society Organisations across different states to reach out to Migrants workers from Jharkhand and extend full support for their survival during this distress situation. IGSSS in coordination with an organisation - Welt Hunger Hilfe (WHH) is receiving the distress call from) and helping them out of their problem to a large extent. Beside labourers from Jharkhand, people who are from different states (like West Bengal, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, and Uttar Pradesh) and are stranded in Delhi also called our IGSSS staff for support. The support that we provided to these workers are as follows:

- 179 relief kits were distributed in slum communities in Delhi (Shaba dairy, Jakhira, Tank road, Madanpur khaddar)
- With the support from an individual donor, we could support dry ration worth INR 10,000 to the factory workers stranded in Hyderpur, Delhi.
- Another Rs. 10,000 value of dry ration was distributed to 12 families in Kapasserah near sect 37 Gurgaon.
- A family who has COVID positive case was provided (through our volunteers) with the sanitary kit after they called IGSSS personnel for help.
As stated in our last update report, IGSSS is trying to conduct a rapid assessment of the impact of COVID 19 and its lockdown on the lives and livelihood of the following communities:

1. Small and Marginal Farmers
2. Livestock Rearers
3. Unorganised workers in Urban
4. Single women and Transgenders
5. Fisher Folk
6. Impact on Small Entrepreneurs and traders at villages and city level
7. Impact on the functioning of Community Based Organisations and NGOs

IGSSS will soon publish these sectorial research study through the webinar.

Conclusion

IGSSS is planning to move ahead from relief mode to rehabilitation phase by restoring livelihood of the poor and marginalised people in rural and urban setting. IGSSS and its partners in strong coordination and collaboration with local governance are looking forward to support the people to restore their livelihood and bounce back to their normal life. IGSSS always feel strongly to build the community resilience and will work on both on field and virtually.