

TEMPERATURE CHECK #CycloneFaniResponse

The million plus families who had been safely evacuated have returned from cyclone shelters to find their homes destroyed (and in many cases their possessions buried as well). Cyclone Fani has faded from the headlines, but the extremely severe cyclone has left communities struggling to cope. Over 5 lakh houses have been damaged and 1.5 crore people affected across Odisha; and over 33,000 houses damaged and 6.3 lakh people affected in West Bengal.

Within this, there are areas that have received little attention so far. Urban slums, socially excluded groups within remote villages, and isolated pockets, such as one of transgender groups, need focus as they often slip out of regular relief and safety nets.

Damage across ODISHA



Damage across WEST BENGAL



SEEDS is focusing on the **two worst-affected** districts of Puri and Khorda. Puri has borne the brunt of Cyclone Fani's fury. Khorda, which includes the city of Bhubaneswar, has also seen major damage to its green cover and the kutcha houses.

Over **1,89,095** houses are damaged in Puri.

70% of the houses in Khorda's slums have sustained damage.

SEEDS is focusing on East Medinipur and Jhargram districts, the **two most rural districts** of the state. They have high numbers of socio-economically vulnerable families and are the worst hit by Cyclone Fani.

Over **125,337** people have been affected and **6,212** houses damaged in East Medinipur.

Jhargram has **3,108** houses damaged and **40,233** people affected.

Based on OSDMA Sitrep (9 May) IAG Odisha's Joint Rapid Needs Assessment Report, NDMA Sitrep(5 May) and field reports from West Bengal

From the Ground

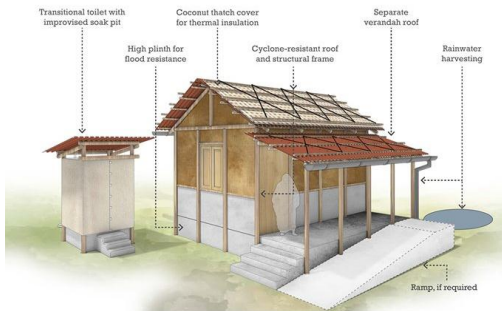
SEEDS' immediate response operations began within 2 days of the cyclone. A few glimpses of the ongoing work:



Community Kitchen: As part of immediate needs we spotted on the ground, SEEDS and local partner SPANDAN are supporting a community kitchen that's being managed by cyclone survivors in the Baliapanda slum of Puri to address immediate needs. People here hadn't eaten properly in days. 500 people from 123 families now have access to a good meal till they can get back on their feet.



Safe water & Hygiene Awareness: In Birampur and Raghusardarbar Jalpai villages of East Medinipur, West Bengal training on hygiene, water chlorination and sanitation; and distribution of key materials to ensure safe drinking water at a family level is underway. Along with local partner KKJS, common drinking water sources and areas at risk of spreading disease have also been identified and are undergoing the chlorination process. 190 families (910 people) have already been reached.



Safe and sustainable transitional home: At the backend, our team of architects, engineers and social workers have been busy developing a design for the transitional shelter. This keeps the consciousness of the local soil conditions, materials, skills, environment, and culture in mind; and reduces risk in future disasters! Prototyping will begin within a week.

Responding to Emerging Needs

SEEDS aims to reach out to 20,000 affected families



BUILDING TRANSITIONAL HOMES AND TOILETS: Even for families that have received relief materials, they cannot stay in tents and tarpaulin for long. Rather than risk unsafe rebuilding that will spontaneously start, transitional houses or support to restore damaged homes are required. These semi-permanent structures will incorporate rubble and falling trees allowing for a dignified and safe family life till permanent houses are constructed.

INR 75,000 for a transitional home & INR 25,000 for a toilet.



MULTI-SPECIALTY HEALTH CAMPS: Affected families require immediate and basic health services and there is a need to prevent epidemics in the region. These will be multi-specialty camps, with conscious focus on hygiene, trauma and mental health concerns as per needs on the ground.

INR 10,000 to reach out to 100 families.



SAFE DRINKING WATER: With power lines still down in many areas and pumps out of operation, drinking water remains an urgent need. SEEDS will be ensuring safe drinking water supply including treatment of available water, decontamination of local water sources, and water filtration systems where needed.

INR 1,000 per family for one month.



HYGIENE AND FAMILY UTILITY KITS: For the most affected families, their possessions have been buried or destroyed. These kits provide basic hygiene supplies, kitchen and bedding items kits ensure that families have access to all their non-food item needs.

INR 1,500 for hygiene kit & INR 6,000 for utility kit per family.

Voices



“I do not see any future for us. The cyclone has completely ravaged our home. My head and body aches but there is no rest. I cannot leave my place unattended for the fear of losing whatever is left.”

Forty-five-year-old Chapal Gunna lives with her 17-year-old daughter Sailaja and mother in Penthakotha urban slum in Puri, an area settled by fisherman migrants from Andhra Pradesh. Her husband left her 17 years ago. As the sole earning member, Chapal engages in construction labour work to feed the family.

When the three returned to the area from the law college that served as their cyclone shelter, the place was flooded and there was no house in sight. Since then, Chapal and her family have been living in a tarpaulin, next to the place she once called home. For several days, they have been surviving on puffed rice and water. ‘The tube well water is salty,’ complains Chapal. Clean water is a major health concern for affected families living in the area. Several tube wells have been contaminated in the cyclonic storm. Chapal spends her day salvaging the basic necessities buried under the debris.