**The Humanitarian Coalition (HC) Canadian Humanitarian Assistance Fund (CHAF) is funded by the Government of Canada Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD). It was created in 2014 to ensure timely funding is available to fund lifesaving responses to smaller-scale disasters. The CHAF is a central feature of the Humanitarian Coalition disaster response system.**

**Summary:** $359,000 CAN has been allocated to Plan International’s response in the provision of safe drinking water and sanitation to the communities affected by Cyclone Hudhud in India.

**Background on Disaster**

On October 12th, Cyclone Hudhud (Category 4) pounded the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh (AP) and Odisha with heavy rain and winds of almost 210 kmph (GDACS) followed by relentless rains until the evening of October 13th. The cyclone moved from coastal AP to Odisha, where it damaged approximately 50,000 thatched houses both in Andhra Pradesh and Odisha while destroying power networks, roads, uprooting trees, electricity poles, and semi-structured buildings before moving onto Chhattisgarh and weakening into a "deep depression" system.

The cyclone has caused heavy damage to public and private property. The departments of public works, electricity, water supply and communications including the University have reported hundreds of millions of dollars in losses. Communication and electricity lines were severely damaged and power supply in the district has been affected since October 12th 2014 and was only restored on October 19th. Currently in rural areas there is still no electricity which has had an impact on agriculture trades, small businesses and street vendors. Most residents have suffered property damage, either in the form of cracked walls, broken window panes, damaged vehicles or collapsed compound walls.
Outline of Needs

Cyclone Hudhud has devastated local infrastructure and destroyed the livelihood of many. This disaster has impacted the availability of food and water, left individuals homeless or with partially destroyed homes and extremely vulnerable. Stats from India’s State Disaster Management Team has identified Cyclone Hudhud has directly impacted 582,156 individuals and 2,000,000 individuals indirectly. 5 Districts in Andhra Pradesh have been hit with the worst affected districts being Vishakapatnam, Srikakulam and Vizianagaram.

Assessments: Plan India deployed an Emergency Response team to the expected landfall area before the disaster struck on October 12th to closely monitor the situation and initiate response operations based on projections on the impact of the disaster. Plan India along with local partners who have experience working with similar types of emergencies deployed a team to conduct a Rapid Needs Assessment. Plan India was the first international organization to undertake a RNA in the area within 72 hours. The assessment carried out by Plan was referred to in UN agencies coordination meetings at the local level.

Need for WASH interventions:
The findings of the JRNA assessment (in the 41 assessed villages) with regard to WASH are as follows:

- Major sources of water supply are open wells (24%), ponds/ open bodies of water (5%), pipe water (22%) and tube wells (54%) in the affected areas
- In 88% of villages, piped water has been affected due to inundation and clogging.
- 51% of communities indicate that the majority of households have limited access to safe drinking water, while 22% indicate they have very limited access. 7% of communities report having no access to clean water with only 20% of communities reporting having adequate access to safe drinking water.
- Only 49% of communities indicated that access to safe water is available to marginal groups.
- There is need for water containers in 64% of the assessed villages.
- Sanitation practices are almost the same pre and post disaster, with 93% of the surveyed villages predominantly practicing open defecation, in fishing communities this is as much as 100%.
- More than half of the households assessed have no access to toilet facilities for both male and female household members.
- Major concerns for 63% of villages relate to solid waste management, and 61% of villages are concerned about wastewater.
- In 93% of villages surveyed, women use cloth for menstrual hygiene, in 7% of villages women use sanitary napkins.

Urgent needs:

- A growing number of people do not have access to safe drinking water and are in urgent need of a range of WASH interventions, including clean water, storage containers, hygiene kits, purification materials and various WASH NFIs.
- WASH needs are particularly acute in Vishakhapatnam city, neighboring affected villages and in Srikakulam.
- There is need for soap and diapers for children.
- An intervention strategy is needed for poor menstrual hygiene practices (i.e. use of cloth)
- Bathing spaces and toilets are limited and hence a problem in relief camps and in water logged areas.
A WASH Surveillance grid needs to be implemented immediately to alert of disease outbreaks, especially in close urban pockets and remote areas as both these clusters are at high risk of rapid spread of disease.

Livelihood: There has been widespread damage to coastal communities and losses include damage to boats and nets which individuals rely on for their livelihood and the loss of crops. Fishermen are unable to go fishing and need 3 to 4 weeks before resuming their normal activities as their boats need to be repaired. Farmers who have lost their crops are unable to recover and must now wait for the next agricultural season. Most families who have lost their homes or have suffered severe damage to their homes have sheltered in makeshift homes or salvaged material to fix their homes.

Sanitation and Hygiene awareness: The greatest gap in needs currently remains access to safe drinking water. Post disaster countless people have been left without access to safe drinking water. The Government of India has committed to providing affected individuals with drinking water, food and for families who have lost family members, compensation however this is not enough. Water supplies are not meeting minimum SPHERE standards and leaving residents more vulnerable to the spread of disease. In the aftermath of Cyclone Hudhud, WASH programming is needed in order to provide immediate assistance to supplement short term interventions by the Government of India which are not sufficient and to assist disaster affected individuals until long term solutions can be put into place.

Support through WASH material: The support for affected families will be given through required WASH items such as water filters, community level water tanks, Construction of platforms and soak pits for safe disposal of wastewater at HH, community and school levels.

Organizational Capacity: Plan India has extensive experience in responding to natural disasters, including the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, floods in Bihar, cloud bursts and landslides in Uttarakhand, major cyclones and flash floods in Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and recently responding to national calamities due to flash floods in Jammu and Kashmir. Plan India is acknowledged to be among the leading agencies in child protection and education in emergencies and child-centred disaster risk reduction, and influences policies and good practice on these issues in the country. Plan India has been working in India for over 30 years and had been involved in relief programming for all major disasters since then. In the past 10 years Plan India has done large scale relief and rehabilitation work.

The Proposed Response

Plan India with the support of local implementing partner Grama Swarajya Samiti (GSS) will respond in Visakhapatnam District. GSS is located in Visakhapatnam and has close ties with local communities and is well placed to respond to this disaster. Moreover GSS has greater access to affected areas then the local government and other agencies. Plan India has worked with GSS in the past in implementing Humanitarian Response and WASH in Emergencies programmes and the partner proven to be a strong partner to work with. With the CHAF funds, Plan India will support some 95,000 people with:

1. Provision of water filters at HH level (Candle filter) for worst affected families.
2. Provision of water storage tanks in disaster affected schools (100 schools).
3. Construction of platforms and soak pits for safe disposal of wastewater with existing hand pumps in disaster affected communities and schools.
4. Provision of water storage tanks at community level (storage tanks linked with Government water motors).
5. Disinfection of water (open wells, ponds).
6. Capacity building and Awareness on Sanitation and hygiene environment for targeted communities, schools and villages

**Project Budget**

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**Area Map**

Our interventions in response to localized disasters are supported by the CHAF (75%), the member agencies of the Humanitarian Coalition (15%) and the Humanitarian Coalition Emergency Response Fund (10%)