

A true motivator of Duldul camp

NGO Forum for Public Health

'It is our duty to clean our area regularly not always depending on others' said Ms Jahanara Khatun (45) from Duldul Camp . A mother of two toddlers Ms Jahanra lives with her husband at Duldul Camp 19 No Ward. 19 No Ward is one of the target areas of DIPCHEO VIII project of NGO Forum and Oxfam from 2015. Duldul camp is one of the most vulnerable areas within the locality where around 3000 people are liveing. Water logging is a very common problem there. For lack of adequate drainage system and improper dumping of garbage especially in the drains make it more vulnerable. To consider the population density and the vulnerability of people different DRR related activities regularly are being done here. Under the project some slabs of drain were installed on the newly constructed drain which was installed from another project (SOJ) of Oxfam. Along with hardware supports some strong and motivated volunteers also created from this slum who continuously try to motivate the community through different DRR session, video shows etc.

Cleaning campaign and street drama on sanitation and DRR have also been organized to raise the community awareness. The support of the project and dedication of the volunteers made the change in the community. Ms Jahanara is an example of these types of changes. After motivating through different activities she started to clean the drains of the slum especially adjacent one for her own. She understands the importance of regular cleaning which remains the drain flow continues that reduce the water logging in their area. There are lots of challenges faced by this day worker who sells cakes during the winter and sells fire wood in normal time. Raising the awareness among slum people to clean their area and stop garbage dumping in open drain is a regular challenge. The unity of slum people and the activness of councilors for regular waste collection were also the challenges. But Jahnara did not stop for others help. She started to clean the drain alone and continuously make other people aware about this. By her regular work the water logging reduced and drain flow remains in order during the recent rain fall. After watching her dedication some other neighbors of her also started to clean the drain. The awareness activities are always continuing through this type of people who always spread their hand for the betterment of the society without any return. Regular awareness and campaign is very essential in the community to bring out this type of true volunteers.