



# Climate Change Impact on Gender

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## Abstract

Need based annual budgetary allocation by the local administration results in easy availability of basic services and upliftment quality of life of community. This is possible due to the active participation of community in annual budgetary plan or contingency plan or micro-planning process. Adverse impact of climate change prioritizes climate emergency in the annual budgetary allocation by local administration but gender issue due to extreme climate situation is ignored despite of huge suffering by women and girls.

Couple of month ago, a simple participatory tool has been developed by the thematic team, Indo Global Social Service Society ([www.igsss.org](http://www.igsss.org)) to address gender issue during climate emergency by the climate vulnerable target group. This tool will help to undertake gender sound climate action planning or contingency planning for annual budgetary allocation in support with local administration. The tool and the process is an innovation, engaging community to address gender issue in extreme climate emergency. The tool has been piloted in two villages and one city with extreme climate vulnerable community. Data collected by the tool has been analysed and documented in a report. The report will be used for future reference to the local duty bearers to address gender issue due the climate emergency.

This study proposes to understand and document gender issues in extreme climate situations from selected climate vulnerable villages and city using the tool. In long run the process, tool and the document will help in gender sound climate action planning for annual budgetary allocation by local community and administration

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## I. Purpose

Addressing adverse impacts of climate change become an utmost emergency in the life and survivability of human beings since the last decades. The daily life of marginalized and weaker people has been encountered by extreme climate situation where majority of the women are extremely impacted. This is visible in several reports, research papers and journals but very few of those address the level of climate change impacts on gender, traditional coping practices in women during climate emergency and gender inclusive climate action plan to minimize the climate change impacts on gender etc. This literature will identify the climate emergencies, reveal several gender issues due to climate emergencies and help gender sound climate action plans as per community need. The tool and insights from the study will help GO and NGOs to localize gender sensitive initiatives in aspect to extreme climate situation.

## II. Objective:

The objective of the study is mentioned below,






1. To identify local extreme climate situations due to climate change
2. To document community level traditional coping practices during climate emergency, if any
3. To assess gender issues in the community emerged due to the onset of extreme climate events
4. To address gender issues, documented in the study, through gender sound climate action planning with local administration, in long run

### Location & target groups

The study is conducted with the target groups encountered by extreme climate events, residing in villages and city slums. The village & city detail is mentioned in the table below,

Sl.	Village/ Slum	Block/ City	District & State	Vulnerability	Latitude/ longitude
1	Kharballi	Rupshi	Barpeta, Assam	Fragile embankment village, Beki river, Brahmaputra tributaries	Lat- 26.19. 49 N Long- 91.00.58 E
2	Manzpaethar	Reddy	Kupawara, Kashmir	High altitude Himalayan village, close to Pakistan border hence highly conflict area, impacted by extreme cold & snow	<b>Lat:</b> 34. 31.33 N <b>Long:</b> 74. 15.19 E
3	Madanpur Khadar	Delhi	Delhi	Low lying embankment, Yamuna river, impacted by flood, water logging and extremely heat wave	Lat- 28.38.42 N Long- 77.13.01 E

The details of the target group is mentioned in the table below,

				
Men	Women	Adolescent girls	Adolescent boys	Elderly
25 to 45 years	25 to 45 years	12 to 16 years	12 to 16 years	55 years & above

### III. Sampling & Methodology

Focus Group Discussion using the simple participatory tool has been organized with above mentioned separate target groups to collect data. Each Focus Group Discussion is conducted with 10 to 15 participants. The participants have been sampled through convenient sampling method for the Focus Group Discussion. Qualitative and quantitative data collection is the priority from the target group. The discussion helps in collection of data in three different aspects mentioned below,

1. Climate situations in a year-
  - a. Extreme climate crisis period
  - b. Moderate climate crisis period
  - c. Period without climate crisis
2. Challenge in daily life in aspect to different climate situation-
  - a. Challenges in daily household chores
  - b. Challenges in livelihood and study
  - c. Challenges in daily self-activity and others
3. Traditional practice to cope with the climate challenge and need based action point to minimize climate change challenge in aspect to gender

Some notes to undertake Focus Group Discussion:

1. The facilitator's role is crucial to undertake the Focus Group Discussion so that the participants can participate actively to convey challenges and needs in climate emergency.
2. Personal biasness must be avoided and prioritized the things as per the need of participants.
3. The Focus Group Discussion data will help in climate action planning at local level hence the data and study document must be properly maintained by the participants for future reference.

#### Scope of the study:

1. The tool is highly flexible to undertake in diversified fields like village or city, plain land or altitude, tropical or temperate zone etc where gender issue in climate emergency is the only priority.
2. The tool has been structured by some open headed questions where qualitative and detail response required from the participants. Their elaboration will help in analysing and addressing the issue in bigger aspect

#### Result of the study:






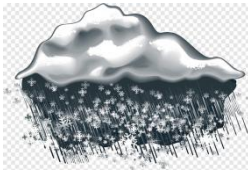

The tool and study have helped in developing a rudimentary common understanding within the community on,

1. Extreme climate situation
2. Gender issues in climate emergency
3. Traditional coping practices to minimize climate change impacts etc

The tool and the process are unique to engage target group, hence strong localization and institutionalization is an additional result.

In long run, the tool and study will help in prioritizing gender issues in climate emergency by the target group, GO and NGOs and accordingly plan together to address the issues. This will result in manifesting gender sound climate action plan or contingency plan or micro plan for annual budgetary allocations by local Government

prioritizing adolescent girls, pregnant & lactating women, elderly women and other women. Undertaking this participatory tool and process for gender inclusive climate action plan is an innovation. Localization and institutionalization of this practice is the ultimate intended impact of the tool and study

Location	Duration	Climate emergency		
Barpeta, Assam	Jun to Sep	 Heavy continuous rain	 Flood & water logging	 Embankment breach
Kupawara, Kashmir	Nov to Mar	 Extreme cold	 Extreme snow fall	 Extreme sleet
Madanpur Khadar, Delhi	Apr to Jun	 Heat wave		

**Challenge:**

- Sharing information by women in presence of husbands and adolescent girls in presence of fathers may create limitation, hence the FGDs will be organized separately with each target groups.
- Diversifying information may deviate the discussion; hence the surveyor has major role to undertake the discussion in right direction and address the issues properly
- In Kupwara housewives were not allowed in the discussion with the surveyors hence the information collected from adult and mature daughters

**Identification of extreme climate situations**









**Identification of climate crisis**

Discussion with participants reveals extreme climate situations throughout the year.

- Barpeta - June to September has been identified as extreme climate crisis period by the participants. This is due to heavy & continuous rains, flood, water logging and frequent embankment breaches. As the result, most of the villagers lost their houses and agricultural land in the river and relocated interior village, took lease of lands from neighbour or relatives. Due to very low response from local Government, villagers entirely depend on the only support from local CSOs during climate emergency. Almost 60% villagers earn primarily from seasonal agriculture, in the remaining 40%, majority earn from wage labour and very few earn from livestock rearing. Availability of wage labour job is very irregular.
- Kupawara- November to March has been identified as extreme climate situation by the participants. This is due to extreme cold, frequent snow fall and continuous sleet (mixture of rain & snow). During this period villagers have limited source of income, even mobility becomes difficult.. Most of the villagers remain jobless, very few migrates temporarily to the foothill towns for earning. Villagers depend entirely on summer cultivation only.
- Madanpur khadar- Tremendous heat wave has been identified by the participants during April to June. This is responsible for extreme climate crisis. Extreme water scarcity, heavy tiredness in workplace is the impact of this heat wave, this has been shared by almost all participants.

**Dialogue with the participants for identifying climate crisis periods**

The table below shows the dialogues given by target groups during identification of climate crisis periods,

Barpeta, Assam (Jun to Sep)	 Men	“Majority of our cultivation lands and houses have been flooded each year in the river. Relocation and reconstruction of house is very common to all. Majority of us have reconstructed house 18 to 20 times in an average. Almost 60% of us have taken lease of land for house & cultivation. Last year 107 out of 300 families lost their houses & cultivation land in flood”
	 Women	“Due to the extreme water logging, swimming is the only way to collect dry food and other needs. In high tide, extreme river current led to casualties often. No boat available on that time. Very low response receives from local Government. Relief from few CSOs become the only support to survive”
	 Adolescent	“During extreme climate situation, school remains closed two three months, we are not able to continue with study even at home. We help parents in managing household level climate emergency”
Kupawara, Kashmir (Nov to Mar)	 Elderly	“During extreme climate crisis, our family members become helpless if hospitalization required due to any emergency. Hospital is 12 km far from the village. The patient is carried by the villagers on their shoulder to the hospital, even in extreme snow or dark.”
	 Men	“During climate emergency, we have limited scope of livelihood this led to create big loan burden with high interest from local shop keepers. In post climate emergency, due to loan repayment bank saving is a challenge”
	 Adolescent girls	“We are not allowed to share with father if any menstruation issues emerge. Father is the head of the family. Often, we tolerate menstruation pain without any reaction. Medicine shop is far from the village hence purchasing of sanitary pad is a challenge in climate emergency. Even water scarcity in climate emergency results another challenge to use sanitary clothes washed repeatedly”.
Madanpur khadar, Delhi (Apr to Jun)	 Adolescent girls	“We spend summer vacation from May to June. During this period, water scarcity led to a big challenge for household chores. We help our mother to overcome this challenge and finish household chores on time. Hence study becomes a challenge during summer vacation”.
	 Women	“In climate crisis period, extreme depletion of ground water results in very limited availability of good quality water. We purchase drinking water daily. But poor quality water led to challenges in household chores..”

**Findings from daily household chores**




**List of daily household chores:**

Climate crisis is visible in daily household chores, even if the family members stay in house or in temporary shelter due to the extreme climate event..The list of daily household chores in usual time has been mentioned below,

- Cooking
- Fuel wood collection
- Livestock rearing
- Fetching water
- Serving foods to family members
- Cleaning house
- Washing clothes & utensils
- Caring kids & elderly members

**Primary tasks of family members in household chores at usual time**

The table below shows primary & supporting role of men & women in the family for household chores at usual time

		Barpeta, Assam	Kupawara, Kashmir	Madanpur Khadar, Delhi
 Women	Primary	- Household chores including cooking, washing clothes & utensils, cleaning house, serving foods to family members - Fetching water - Grazing, fodder collection & feeding to livestock - Fuel wood collection & burning chulah - Caring kids & elderly members		- Household chores including cooking, washing clothes & utensils, cleaning house, serving foods to family members - Bringing kids to school/ tuition
	Supporting			Bringing family members to treatments, if required
 Men	Primary	- Hospitalization to family members as when required - Purchasing of vegetables & daily food materials for family	- Dry food purchasing at pre-emergency - Purchasing fuel wood & fodder at pre-emergency	Purchasing drinking water due to poor quality
	Supporting			
 Adolescent girl	Primary	Household chores including cooking, cleaning house, washing utensils & clothes, serving foods to family members, fetching water, caring siblings in absence of mother (when mothers goes to job)		
	Supporting		Helping mother in household chores	





**Key observations:**

Women of the families are primarily responsible for all types of household chores as mentioned in the above table. The critical findings are mentioned below,

1. In Barpeta, Kupawara & Madanpur khadar, cooking and serving food to family members is a regular household chore by the mothers where daughters support them. In case of mother's illness or absence, daughters play primary role in cooking and serving food to family members. Male members of the family ignore this task.
2. Cleaning of home, utensils and washing clothes are the tasks to women of the family only. Daughters help their mothers in this. This is visible in all sampled village & city.
3. In villages, women usually spend a lot of time to, go and collect fuel wood far from their village 2 to 3 days in a week and burn chulah for cooking daily. The girls do this in absence of their mother (when mother go to job). Almost all said that smokes of chulah is very painful for them. In Kupawara village only, fathers are active to purchase & store fuel wood at pre-climate change emergency period.
4. Fetching water is the responsibility of women & girls only, no support come from male members of the family in this. Women fetch water from river in Barpeta villages and from spring in Kupawara villages. The women & girls move 500 m -1 km each time in an average, 5 to 10 times daily to fetch water from river or spring, this depends on the water requirement of family members. Extreme water crisis led to purchase water for drinking in Madanpur khadar slum, hence women have no participation in fetching water.
5. Grazing, fodder collection & feeding to livestock is the primary task to mothers and daughters in both sampled villages. In Kupawara village only, fathers are active to purchase & store fodder at pre-climate change emergency period.
6. In all three sampled location, active engagement in household chores and caring of siblings in absence of mother is the responsibility of daughters. This resulted gaps in their study. Despite of interest in painting and physical exercises in some of them they cannot practice these due to their household workload.
7. Male members do not have participation in any household chores except to take their family members in hospital during emergency and purchasing vegetables & daily food materials for family. Men in the families are visible in purchasing drinking water at Madanpur khadar slums due to extreme water crisis. This point reveals that men prioritizes those household chores related to household expenses.

**Primary tasks of family members in household chores at climate emergency**

The table below shows primary & supporting role of men & women in the family for household chores at climate emergency

		Barpeta, Assam	Kupawara, Kashmir	Madanpur Khadar, Delhi
Adverse climate situation/ climate emergency		Flood, water logging, embankment breach	Extreme cold, snowfall, slit, water scarcity	Heat wave & water scarcity
 Women	Primary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Collecting dry food for kids</li> <li>- Fetching and sieving river water for drinking to family members</li> <li>- Cleaning muddy house in post flood &amp; water logging</li> <li>- Organizing elevated beds &amp; other emergency management in house and temporary shelter</li> <li>- Feeding to livestock in emergency shelter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Managing household chores with low water</li> <li>- Burning fire for minimizing cold</li> <li>- Warming water in chulah. Warm water is the only need for drinking and other household purposes in emergency</li> <li>- Feeding to livestock in climate emergency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Managing household chores in low water</li> <li>- Finishing household chores without any delay despite of frequent load-shedding, tiredness and mosquito, due to extreme climate situation</li> </ul>
	Supporting	Helping husband to prepare banana raft for mobility in climate emergency and in reconstruction of houses in post climate emergency		
 Men	Primary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hospitalizing family members during climate emergency, if required</li> <li>- Preparing banana raft for mobility</li> <li>- Reconstructing houses at post climate emergency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Shopping of food items from local market, if required</li> <li>- Hospitalizing family members during climate emergency, if required</li> </ul>	Shopping vegetable for household purpose
	Supporting	Helping wife in dry food collection during climate emergency		
 Adolescent girl	Supporting	Helping mother in household chores during climate emergency		
 Adolescent boy	Supporting	Helping father in reconstructing houses at post climate emergency		

**Key observations:**

Below is the critical finding reveals extreme climate impact on gender during household chores,

♀	♂
<b>Barpeta, Assam</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Almost all mothers agree that collection of dry foods for their kids and family members, is their responsibility only, as they cannot cook during flood and water logging. Relief from the local CSOs is the source of dry food only. In few cases women receive support from their husbands in collection of dry foods in emergency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Few men mention their participation in collection of dry food to their family members during flood &amp; water logging</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Majority said that there is no boat available during flood &amp; water logging, hence swimming is the only way to collect dry foods for their kids. In high tide due to extreme river current, they do</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Men prepare banana raft for their own movement in the emergency generally. They rescue those families whose house is flooded in the river due to embankment breach. In some cases women help their husbands in preparing banana raft.</li> </ul>

<p>this with life risk. Few women make banana raft for temporary movement where they often receive help from daughter and son.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Few casualties reported during fetching river water in high tide due to extreme river current which is a big challenge for the mothers. Daughters support their mothers in fetching water from river in majority.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ There is no responsibility of men members of the family in fetching river water in the extreme situation.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Due to the collection of dry food, fetching water from river and other domestic needs during flood &amp; waterlogging women stay in wet clothes for long. This resulted in fever, dermatological problems &amp; other sickness in majority. Treatment available only in the health centres 5 km far from the village , difficult to go there in extreme water logging</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ During flood and water logging, women, elderly parents and other family members are transferred to the health centre if it is extreme emergency. In that case men seek support from the neighbours to transfer the patient.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The river water is not clean during flood. Hence mothers sieve water for drinking to the family members. This is the responsibility of mothers only where they receive their daughters' help often</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No engagement of husbands &amp; sons reported in this</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The flood &amp; water logging is visible 2 to 3 times in a month and 5 to 6 days long at a time, during the extreme situation. Cleaning of muddy house in each post flood and water logging situation when water goes down is the only task to mothers where daughters help mothers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No help is visible from the male members of the family in this</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ During emergency, women help husbands to relocate their family members to nearest temporary shelter and raised platform. And also help in rehabilitation, reconstruction in post emergency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Men plays very active role in relocating family members to nearest temporary shelter and raised platform during emergency. In post emergency men have a vital role in reconstruction of their houses.</li> </ul>
<p>Mothers are only responsible for the tasks mentioned below to manage household emergency</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Keeping the beds one above other and elevated temporarily</li> <li>2. Keeping utensils, other important materials on elevated bed and strongly hold kids safely on the elevated bed</li> <li>3. Providing care to kids &amp; elderly family members if any illness during emergency etc</li> </ol> <p>Mothers are only responsible for the tasks mentioned below to manage emergency in temporary shelter,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. organizing candle/ fire to light the shelter</li> <li>2. providing safety to daughters specially at the evening etc</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The husbands have low participation in managing emergency in house and in temporary shelters during flood and waterlogging except relocation of family members and reconstruction of houses</li> </ul>
<p><b>Kupawara, Kashmir</b></p>	
<p>Due to extreme cold &amp; frequent snowfall, availability of water is a big challenge, women melt snow for water and managing household chores with very low water.</p>	<p>Men have no participation in fetching water for household chores</p>
<p>Most of the women, burn chulah throughout the day to melt snow for water. Apart from this burning chulah helps them in minimizing cold during household chores. Due to this, they collect firewood, as when required, from the adjacent forest where carnivores are frequently visible</p>	<p>Men have no participation in fuel wood collection</p>

Warm water is the only need for drinking and other household chore during adverse climate situation, hence serving water this is the only task to women	Men ignore this task
Feeding to livestock is the task of women only. Due to this they face lot of challenge in extreme cold.	Very few men help them in this
Women are not allowed to handle household expenses hence they have limited participation in shopping of food items, purchasing other things	Shopping of food items from local market during extreme climate situation is done by men only
Women are not allowed in hospitalizing family members during climate emergency, if required	Hospitalizing family members during climate emergency is the task of men. Men are helped by the neighbors in this. Hospital is 12 km far from the village. Hospitalization in extreme snow is a big challenge for them
<b>Madanpur khadar, Delhi</b>	
Due to extreme heat wave managing household chores without any delay is a big challenge for women. Apart from this continuous load-shedding and mosquito creates interruption in household chores.	Male members of the family ignore their participation in household chores
Depletion of water table resulted in low availability of water for household chores. This led another challenge for women in household chores	No help is visible from husbands or sons in fetching water for household chores Potable water is not available hence purchasingpotable water is the only way. This is done by husbands only.
Most of the women expressed their challenges due to tiredness. The adverse heat wave is the only cause for this	Due to hardly participation of husbands, women have enormous workload which is a big challenge in this extreme climate situation
Few women have participation in shopping of food items from local market during extreme climate situation. Women are provided limited space to handle household expenses	Shopping of food items from local market during extreme climate situation is done by men only.

#### IV. Findings from livelihood & study

##### List of allied activities for livelihood & study:





The list of allied activities for livelihood & study in usual time has been mentioned below,

- Household level agriculture
- Wage labour
- Walking far to go to workplace & school
- Study in school
- In Barpeta&Kupawara, household level agriculture is the primary livelihood in 60% families, the remaining 40% families are in daily wage labour for their primary livelihood. In Barpeta most of the villagers lost their agricultural land in flood and took land lease in the raised & safe part of village from relatives for livelihood. In Kupawara household level agriculture is highly challenging from November to March due to extreme cold & snow.
- School is 3 km far from Barpeta village. Most of the parents encourage children to go to school. In general parents give travel allowance to their children for school but in most of the cases daughters are ignored to give travel allowance for school due to limited income of parents. Hence walking to school is very common in most of the daughters. There is an only college in neighbouring village which is too far, hence villagers give low priority to send their daughters to college due to security concern
- There is a school in Kupawara village. Parents encourage children to go to school. But college is 12 km far from the village. Due to the distance most of the parents do not show interest to send their daughters in college.
- In Barpeta, a total 6 km travel to go to workplaces is common for men and women. Most of the women walk to workplace for saving travel allowance. Men do not have this practice. In Kupawara village women are not allowed to do job for income. In Madanpurkhadar men show low encouragement for women to do job for income.



**Tasks for livelihood & study in usual time**

The table below shows the tasks for livelihood & study in usual time

		Barpeta, Assam	Kupawara, Kashmir	Madanpur Khadar, Delhi
 Women	Primary	Workplace is far from village, walking to go to workplace is common practice for women labors to save travel allowance	Women are not encouraged in income	
	Supporting	The families whose primary livelihood is household level agriculture, women help husband in household level agriculture		
 Men	Primary	Men have primary responsibility in household level agriculture for those families whose primary livelihood is household level agriculture		
		Workplace is far from village; men labors do not have walking practice to go to workplace and save travel allowance	- Some men are in labor jobs - Loan repay is a mandate in usual time to the men. Men are not able to earn during extreme climate situation. This led them to take loan from local vendors for household expenses.	Almost all men are doing job for income. Low level of job satisfaction is common to all. They are not able to give time to family members, except holiday
 Adolescent girl	Primary	School is far from village, walking to go to school is common for daughters to save travel allowance	Study in school located in the village College is 12 km farhence interruption due to inadequate TA	Study in local school
 Adolescent boy		Sons are provided TA by their parents for school regularly. This is an opportunity for them		

**Key observations:**

Below is the critical finding from livelihood and study allied tasks in aspect to gender during usual time,

☛ In Barpeta village, household level agriculture is possible only in post monsoon for those whose cultivation land has not been flooded. The villagers whose cultivation land flooded,

- 60% of them take lease to the uplands located in interior part of village from neighbours for cultivation.
- 10 to 15% of them migrate temporarily to the nearest cities for earning.

In Kupawara village, household level agriculture is very limited during extreme cold and snow.

☛ Due to replacement of labour wages with modern machines, wage labours job become limited in Barpetavillagers despite of Govt job cards. Women are prioritized by the employers for low wage rate in compared to men. An average 1 to 2 days job is available weekly for women. There is rarely available job for men.

☛ In Kupawara village women are strictly not allowed to do job for income. In Barpeta, the place of work is far from the village, women depart from their home early morning so that they can come back to home before evening. Walking to workplace for saving travel allowance is very common in the women. In Madanpurkhadar, men have low encouragement to send their wives for income.

☛ In Barpeta village school is far from the village. Due to irregular income of parents, daughters are neglected to give travel allowance hence walking is the only alternative to go to school for girls. The same repetition in negligence to daughters to give travel allowance is visible in Kupawara village for college going daughters. The college is far from the village. Sons are prioritized to provide travel allowance for school & colleges in both villages. In Madanpurkhadar, almost all boys & girls do study in local school and colleges hence travel allowance not required





☛ In Barpeta village, girls are not allowed entering to school without school uniform. In rainy day the girls go to school wearing casual cloth which get wet due to rains on the way to school. Girls change cloth in school neighbouring friend or relative's house before and after the school. There is no changing room for girls in the school for changing cloth. Some girls are scared often using their relative's house for changing clothes, but they do not have any alternatives.

☛ Due to no streetlight in Kupawara & Barpeta villages women & girls are in concern for their safety if they are outside home at evening

☛ Elderly persons cannot earn due to their age and sickness

**Tasks for livelihood & study in climate emergency**

The table below shows the tasks for livelihood & study in climate emergency

		<b>Barpeta, Assam</b>	<b>Kupawara, Kashmir</b>	<b>Madanpur Khadar, Delhi</b>
Adverse climate situation/ climate emergency		Flood, water logging, embankment breach	Extreme cold, snowfall, slit, water scarcity	Heat wave & water scarcity
 Women	Primary	Limited wage for women during extreme climate situation.	Women are not encouraged in income	
 Men	Primary	During flood & water logging, breakdown of household level agriculture and labor jobs results in hardly income by men	During extreme cold & snow, limited livelihood and income of men	During heat wave extreme tiredness of men in job
 Adolescent girl	Primary	During extreme climate situation schools remain closed. This creates challenge for both daughters and sons		
 Adolescent boy		Sons have low interest in study during flood & water logging	Sons are provided private tuitions for continuing with their study	Sons spend their vacation with leisure

**Key observations:**

Below is the critical finding from livelihood and study allied tasks in aspect to gender during climate emergency,

- In all three locations, during extreme climate situation schools remain closed, daughters help mothers in household level emergency management during extreme climate situation hence rarely can engage themselves with study. Girls have more interest in study compared to boys. Hence, they are very caring to books, copies and study materials even in extreme climate situation.
- Boys have low interest in study. They do not take care to books, copies and study materials in extreme climate situation. As the result mothers care books, copies and other study materials of son

♀	♂
<b>Barpeta, Assam</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In the extreme situation there is limited livelihood available. Women help husbands in relocating family members to elevated platform or temporary shelters and managing emergency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In extreme situation household agriculture break down due to flood &amp; water logging. In some cases, lands lost fertility at post flood. Modern machineries result in low availability of daily wage labour for men in usual time. The extreme climate situation plays an additional limitation in this. Hence men have very low income security. Scarcity of food is common to all.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In the emergency going to school is impossible for girls due to extreme flood &amp; water logging. Regular study in the temporary shelter is a challenge because of no electricity and due to over crowd.</li> <li>▪ Mothers organize fire or alternative lights concerning safety of daughters. This help daughters to carry on their study in extreme situation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Boys are not interested to do study in temporary shelter during emergency because of no power electricity and over crowd</li> <li>▪ Fathers have limited priority to organize fire or alternative light in temporary shelter despite of the safety concern to their daughters</li> </ul>
<b>Kupawara, Kashmir</b>	
School remains closed for four months during extreme cold & snow. This creates big challenge in study. Daughters are ignored to give private tuitions. As the result they do group study with school friends	Sons are provided private tuitions for continuing with their studymonths during extreme cold & snow for four months when school remains closed
Women are strictly not allowed in income	During extreme cold & snow, limited livelihood and income of men results in big loan burden from local shop vendors for household expenses
<b>Madanpurkhadar, Delhi</b>	

Women are not encouraged for job by their husbands	Conflicts at workplace is common for men. This is due to extreme tiredness of men in job during heat wave days
Daughters help their mothers in household chores hence face interruption in study during heat wave days when school remain closed	School remains closed during heat wave days, due to low interest in study, sons spend their vacation with leisure without study

**Findings from self-activities & others**





**List of daily self-activities & others :**

The list of daily self-activity and others in usual time has been mentioned below,

- Brushing teeth
- Bathing
- Eating
- Washing clothes for self
- Menstrual health & hygiene
- Worship
- Leisure or chatting neighbours
- Playing

**Self-activity tasks in usual time**

The table below shows self-activity tasks in usual time,

	Barpeta, Assam	Kupawara, Kashmir	Madanpur Khadar, Delhi
 Women	Few women have leisure time to chat with neighbours		
 Men	Men do not wash their own clothes		Almost all men remain busy with their jobs, they have leisure time only in the holidays which they spend with family
	Men have long leisure time to chat with neighbors and entertainments		
 Adolescent girl	Few daughters can manage time to play with neighbors		
 Adolescent boy	Almost all boys have leisure time for playing and chatting with his neighbor		

**Key observations:**




Below is the critical finding from self-activity tasks in aspect to gender at usual time,

- Brushing teeth, bathing, eating, washing self-cloth, worshiping etc is considered as daily self-activities by the participants. Male members of family do not wash their own clothes, they give it to their wife, mother or daughter for washing.
- Majority of the men in Barpeta&Kupawara, spend their leisure chatting to the neighbours while women have limited leisure time. In Madanpurkhadar slum, men have leisure time only on holiday which they spend with their family.
- Sons are regular in playing with their friends due to enough leisure while daughters playing sometime when get free from household chores. Most of the daughters have limited leisure time.
- In Barpeta&Kupawara, men go to local mosque for worshipping, they go to mosque together, chatting each other on the way to mosque. Women do worship at home. In Madanpurkhadar, men show low interest in daily worship while women do their daily worship at homes
- In Barpeta&kupawara, women and adolescent girls face extreme challenge during their menstrual time. Majority of them have limited knowledge on menstrual health and hygiene. Sanitary pads are not available locally hence using washed clothes repeatedly is the only option. No support available from male members of the family even in the household chores at menstrual time. There is a mental stigma on menstrual health, hence

most of the women & girls do not share their menstrual health issue to husbands or fathers or other male family members. In Barpeta, the school where village children do study is a coeducation school, despite of women teachers in the school there is no separate toilet to change sanitary pad for girls during menstrual time. In Kupawara, women teachers help girl students during their menstruation time if required. In Madanpurkhadar, women and girls have liberty to talk on menstrual health challenges to husbands or fathers or male members of family. They use sanitary pads regularly, they buy sanitary pads from local medical shops.

**Self-activity tasks in climate emergency**

The table below shows self-activity tasks in climate emergency

		Barpeta, Assam	Kupawara, Kashmir	Madanpur Khadar, Delhi
Adverse climate situation/ climate emergency		Flood, water logging, embankment breach	Extreme cold, snowfall, slit, water scarcity	Heat wave & water scarcity
 Women	Primary	Finding out & using bush or forest patches for toilet and disposal of sanitary pads when sheltered in temporary shelter	Due to extreme cold self-activity is a challenge, using warm water is the only way to minimize the challenge	Judicious use of water for self-activity due to extreme water scarcity
 Adolescent girl	Primary	- Finding out & using bush or forest patches for toilet and disposal of sanitary pads when sheltered in temporary shelter - Going together with neighbour friend or mother for toilet and other needs in dark when sheltered in temporary shelter		
 Men	Primary	Carcass disposal	- Due to extreme cold self-activity is a challenge, using warm water is the only way to minimize the challenge - Men have long leisure time - Inhouse worship is the only option	Extreme water scarcity and load-shading led to interruptions in self activity

**Key observations:**

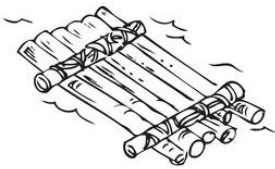




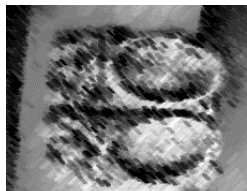

Below is the critical finding from self-activity tasks in aspect to gender during climate emergency,

♀	♂
<b>Barpeta, Assam</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Going toilet is very painful for women &amp; girls when sheltered in temporary shelter during extreme climate situation. There is no toilet available in temporary shelter. Women and girls use bush, forest patch or banana plantation close to temporary shelter for toilet. This reveals a major concern on safety of women &amp; girls. They go to toilet together in group for their own safety.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Men have hardly concern about the safety of women and girls in temporary shelter. Men have no issue in open toilet at temporary shelter</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Menstruation is very painful to women and girls during flood and water logging. The sanitary pads are available only in the relief by local CSOs but using sanitary pads is difficult due to no toilet in temporary shelter. Even disposal of sanitary pad is painful due to inadequate unplanned medical waste management in temporary shelter. Women and girls dispose the sanitary pads in bushes and forest patches close to temporary shelter.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Due to mental stigma, women do not ask for any help from their husbands during menstruation time even in flood. A clear ignorance visible in men talking on menstrual issues of women &amp; girls.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Women do worship at home in both usual time and in emergency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ During flood and water logging going to mosque is impossible for men. They do worship at home or at temporary shelter</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Women &amp; girls are not allowed in carcass disposal.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Men prioritize carcass disposal during flood and water logging situation. They keep temporary shelter clean and odour free through collecting carcass of livestock and disposing properly</li> </ul>
<b>Kupawara, Kashmir</b>	

Due to limited availability of sanitary pad in local market women purchase this from main market 12 km far from village. Storage of sanitary pads at pre-emergency is a good practice visible in most of the women. Some women use washed cloth but repeated washing is a challenge due to water scarcity in extreme cold & snow	Men do not take any responsibility in this
	Men have long leisure during extreme cold & snow. Some men compare this with hibernation
<b>Madanpurkhadar, Delhi</b>	
Most of the women & girls express their challenge in self activity due to extreme water scarcity and load-shading. Sanitary pad is used by almost all women & adolescent girls even in extreme climate situation	Extreme tiredness results in delay of daily self-activity

**Coping practices**

Participants shared several traditional coping practices during extreme climate situation. The table below shows traditional coping practices in extreme climate situation shared by the participants.

	Traditional practices		
Barpeta, Assam			
	Preparing & using banana raft for movement	Sieving water for drinking purpose	Using fire/ lantern in the evening for study and other needs at temporary shelter
Kupawara, Kashmir			
	Kangri for hand warming	Samawar for warming tea	Pulhour warming feet
Madanpurkhadar, Delhi			
	Lemon water minimizing impact of heat wave		

### **7 Suggestion & recommendation**

The study reveals lot of quality findings which helps us in developing priority to climate emergency plan in aspect to gender. Below are the recommendations to integrate gender vibrant initiatives with GO and NGOs climate emergency plan as per the need of target group.

#### **Addressing gender:**

1.

Developing basic level of gender sensitivity within the target groups through organizing small discussion, meetings and dialogues in Barpeta, Kupawara and Madanpurkhadar. This will help in addressing gaps in responsibilities and commitments of the husband to his wife, father to his child and son to his parent both in usual time and in climate emergency. In Kupawara, housewives were not allowed to participate in the discussion. They were not even allowed to come out to the village outsiders. This is a very serious gender concern. Suggestion is to address this through sensitization and mobilization within the community

2.

Daughters are neglected by the parents hence gap visible in continuing with study during usual time and climate emergency at Barpeta & Kupawara. In Madanpurkhadar, mandatory participation of daughters in household chores results gap in their study during summer vacation. Organizing small counselling sessions with the parents to give priority to daughters' study, like sons in usual time and during climate emergency. School on mobile van is one way to continue uninterrupted study of village children during climate emergency, hence suggestion is to do advocacy in this with local duty bearers

3.

Adolescent girls are highly focussed to their careers. In villages most of them are interested in vocational training for income and to support parents. Suggestion is for organizing need based vocational trainings to the interested mature girls and initiating small business with the help of family members. This will create alternative income to the family even in climate emergency.

4.

In Barpeta villages, the villagers become sheltered in temporary shelters on the adjacent raised lands during flood and water logging. The inadequate temporary shelter results in over crowded during climate emergency. Apart from this there is no toilet available in the emergency shelter which is extremely challenging for the women and girls. Suggestion is to construct adequate temporary shelters with proper separate toilet facilities for women and men in support with local duty bearers

5.

Very low participation of men in household chores reported in Barpeta, Kupawara & Madanpurkhadar. Men have limited skill to manage household chores in compared to women, household chore is the only task of women, this understanding of men impacted negatively on quality of lives of wives and daughters. Suggestion is to sensitize and mobilize community to enhance participation of all family members in household chores irrespective to gender

#### **Preparedness & mitigation measures :**

6.

Strengthening the community level preparedness to minimize the impact of climate crisis in aspect to gender

7.

Scarcity of dry food especially for kids during climate emergency is highly visible in Barpeta villages, this is challenging to the mothers as they are primarily responsible to collect dry foods for their kids and family members in climate emergency. In Kupawara market is far from the village, purchasing food items is a big challenge during extreme cold & snow. Men stored some food items for emergency, but this is not enough in long term. Suggestion is stock piling dry foods and paediatric foods for using in climate emergency in close coordination with local duty bearers and line department officials.

8.

Part from this transportation is a challenge in Barpeta and Kupawara at emergency. Suggestion is to do advocacy with local duty bearers for organizing transport to go outside village, eg, going to school, health centre, job place etc in usual time and during climate emergency

9.

Formation and capacity building of task force team to manage the climate emergency. Priority of women and girls in the task force team to address gender issues during climate emergency. Advocacy with line departments and local duty bearers for timely dissemination of early warnings during climate emergency. This will minimize the impact of extreme climate situation.

10.

Strengthening task force team members for using digital media and mobile applications to disseminate early warning timely and predict climate emergency.

**Basic services :**

11. Supporting men and women in developing regular resilient livelihood in Barpeta. This will help in addressing challenge for the livelihood during climate emergency and usual time

12. Interrupted power supply is a challenge in Barpeta, Kupawara&Madanpurkhadar during climate emergency. Suggestion is to do advocacy with local duty bearers for uninterrupted power supply in usual time. Providing alternative power back up during climate emergency

13. Access to water from tube well become difficult during flood and water logging in Barpeta, hence river is the primary source of water. In Kupawara spring is the source of water, located close to adjacent forest patch. Fetching water is the only tasks of women and girls. Frequent casualty for fetching water reported during high tide due to extreme river water current in Barpeta. Hence raising platforms of the tube well for water even in flood & water logging is highly required. In Kupawara, advocacy for a water point close to village is required. This will minimize life risks to women & girls.

14. Engaging villagers with anganwadi, gram panchayat and other local institutions to access Government schemes and entitlements, basic services etc in usual time and receive support during climate emergency

15. In Barpeta and Kupawara, collection of fuel wood and burning chulah is the task of women and adolescent girls only. This is very painful for them. Smokes from chulah is hazardous for health. Suggestion is to prioritize smokeless chulah at household level to control emission and reduce usage of fuel wood. Imparting training to the mature proactive adolescent girls for developing small enterprise of smokeless chulah with local resources and support

**Menstrual health and hygiene :**

16. In Barpeta&Kupawara, mental stigma on menstrual health and hygiene is another challenge to the target group. This led to extreme pain to the women and adolescent girls. Strong sensitization and awareness, counselling is the only way to overcome this challenge. Support villagers to get access to sanitary pads in both usual time and climate emergency. Local level advocacy to promote sanitary pads through allotment of Govt. schemes and entitlements.






17. In Barpeta, there is no girl's room available in the coeducation school where the village girls and boys go to study. This results in challenge for the adolescent girls during menstrual time and even in the rainy days for changing dress. Suggestion is to dialogue with the school authority and resolve the issue.

**Climate consensus**

18. Sensitization and awareness on climate change emergency. Demystification of climate change science to youth group. This will help in building a climate change consensus within the community

19. Climate action plan is visible in Assam, Jammu & Kashmir and Delhi but mostly dormant in operation. The State climate action plan document is comprised of some specific sections, under each of which actions are planned in aspect to climate change. There is limited visibility of gender issues in the climate action plan document. Suggestion is to do robust advocacy for gender sound climate action plan or village contingency plan or micro plan. This plan will prioritize pregnant and lactating women, elderly women and adolescent girls to address gender issues.

**Tool for Focus Group Discussion**

Target group	Season	Months	Challenges			Traditional coping practices	Action points
			Daily household chores	Livelihood and study	Daily self-activity & other		
 Women	Extreme climate crisis period						
	No climate crisis period						
 Adolescent girls	Extreme climate crisis period						
	No climate crisis period						
 Adolescent boys	Extreme climate crisis period						
	No climate crisis period						
 Men	Extreme climate crisis period						
	No climate crisis period						
 Elderly	Extreme climate crisis period						
	No climate crisis period						