Bangladesh Emergency Disaster Damage Rehabilitation Project

The devastating 2007 floods and cyclone in Bangladesh, affecting 25 million people in 51 districts, caused severe damage to livelihood, infrastructure, and other assets. The disaster disrupted economic activities, inflicting heavy losses to crops and slowing expansion in industries and services. The combined losses of the floods and cyclone are estimated at over $3 billion. The losses to assets and output because of flooding amount to more than $1 billion. The cyclone caused extensive damage of over $2 billion.

The floods and cyclone slowed progress in poverty reduction, with the poor and the vulnerable suffering most in terms of losses to crops, livestock, property, and housing, and reduced income opportunities. The flood and cyclone impact put pressure on external and domestic balances, with the pressure on the current account requiring additional assistance to reduce the external financing gap.

To help contribute to sustainable economic growth by minimizing the devastating impact of the severe floods and cyclone, and reducing future risk from similar hazard events, the Asian Development Bank, in 2008, approved the Emergency Disaster Damage Rehabilitation (Sector) project. The project rehabilitated and restored damage caused by the 2007 floods and cyclone and enabled people to resume their normal lives by restoring access to livelihoods and basic infrastructure.

The project is in line with the strategic directions of ADB’s South Asia Department, which focuses on sustainable infrastructure, climate change mitigation and adaptation, human development, regional cooperation and integration, public-private partnership, and good governance.
About 800 km of flood-damaged national, regional, and district roads were rehabilitated within the country's seven road zones.

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