

**Nexus Between Climate-Induced  
Displacement And Violence against Women  
and Girls: Evidence From Disaster Prone  
Areas of Bangladesh**


Prepared By:

**Md. Shakhawat Hossain, Young Researcher 2021**

**Arifur Rahaman, Young Researcher 2021**

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## Introduction

- The frequency and intensity of disasters all around the globe are increasing.
- Bangladesh has been linked with numerous natural catastrophes caused by climate change.
- Over 70 percent of married women or girls in Bangladesh have faced some form of intimate partner abuse; about half of whom say their partners have physically assaulted them. (BBS and UNFPA, 2015)
- In 2020, 4.4 million people migrated to new lands due to climate change induced disasters (IDMC)





# Importance of the Study

Climate migration, in general, climate change, and disaster-induced displacement, in particular, are becoming increasingly important in international climate talks

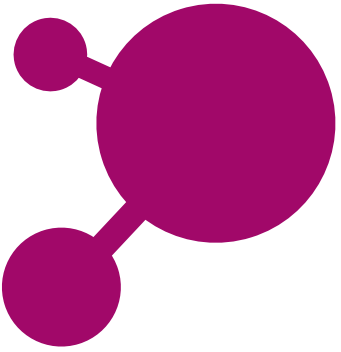
According to a recent World Bank projection, the number of Bangladeshis displaced by climate change's different effects might reach 13.3 million by 2050, making it the country's leading driver of internal migration

Due to their social role and lack of agency, women absorb even intensified risk during and after a disaster

According to some studies, disasters and forced displacement exacerbate violence against women

This entails a more in-depth inquiry into the factors contributing to violence against women during and after natural





## Research Questions and Objectives

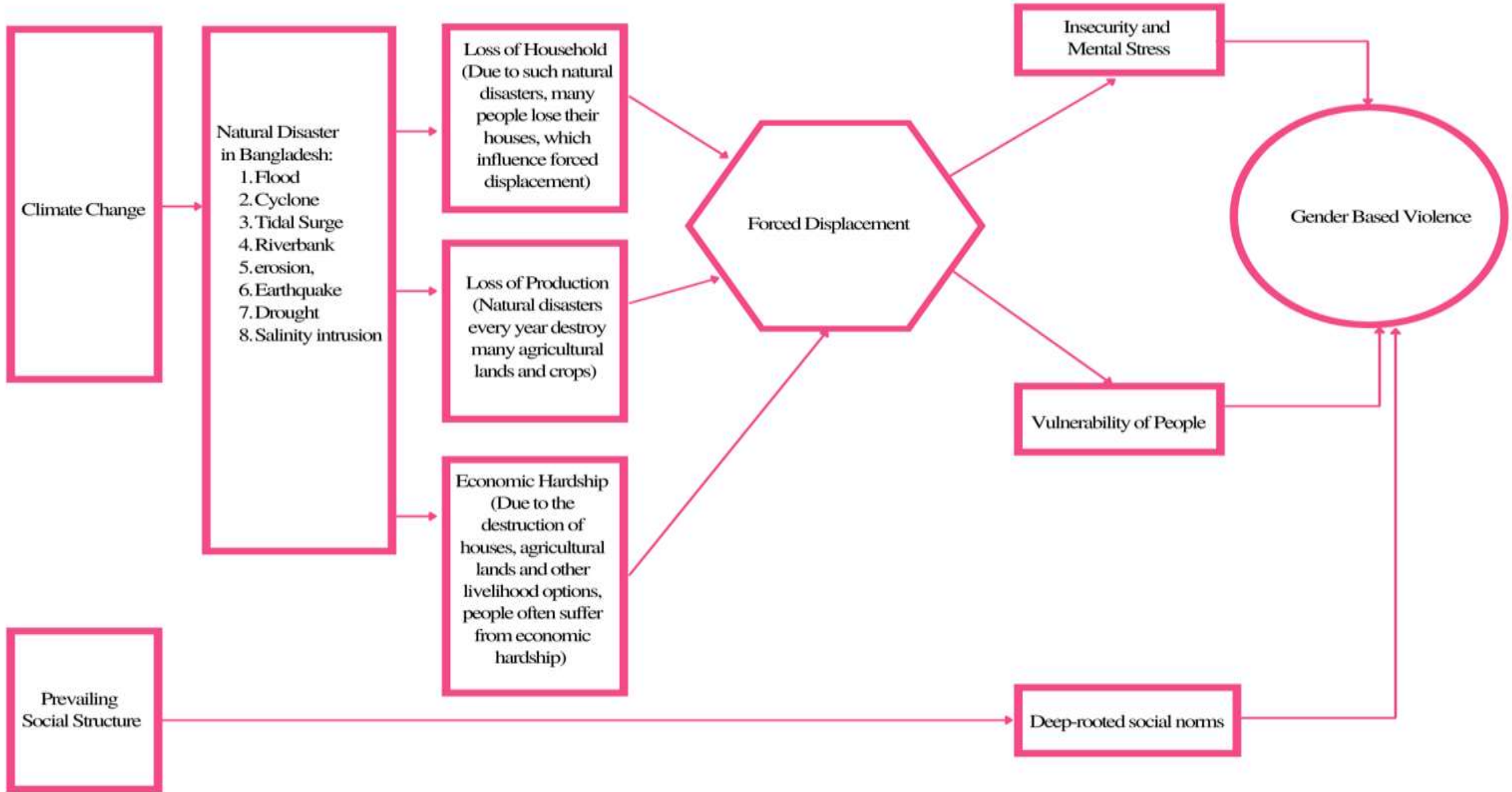
How does climate change-induced displacement affect violence against women, specifically child marriage practices due to natural disasters in Bangladesh?

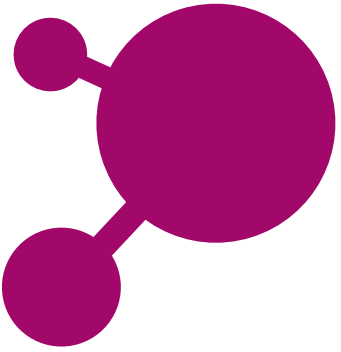
**Specific objectives of this study are following:**

- To assess the vulnerability, insecurity, and psychological distress triggered by climate-induced displacement
- To find out the evidence of violence against women due to climate-induced displacement
- To identify the effects of child marriage practices with a special focus on gender-based violence
- To investigate economic and socio-cultural factors shaping child marriage practices among climate-induced population



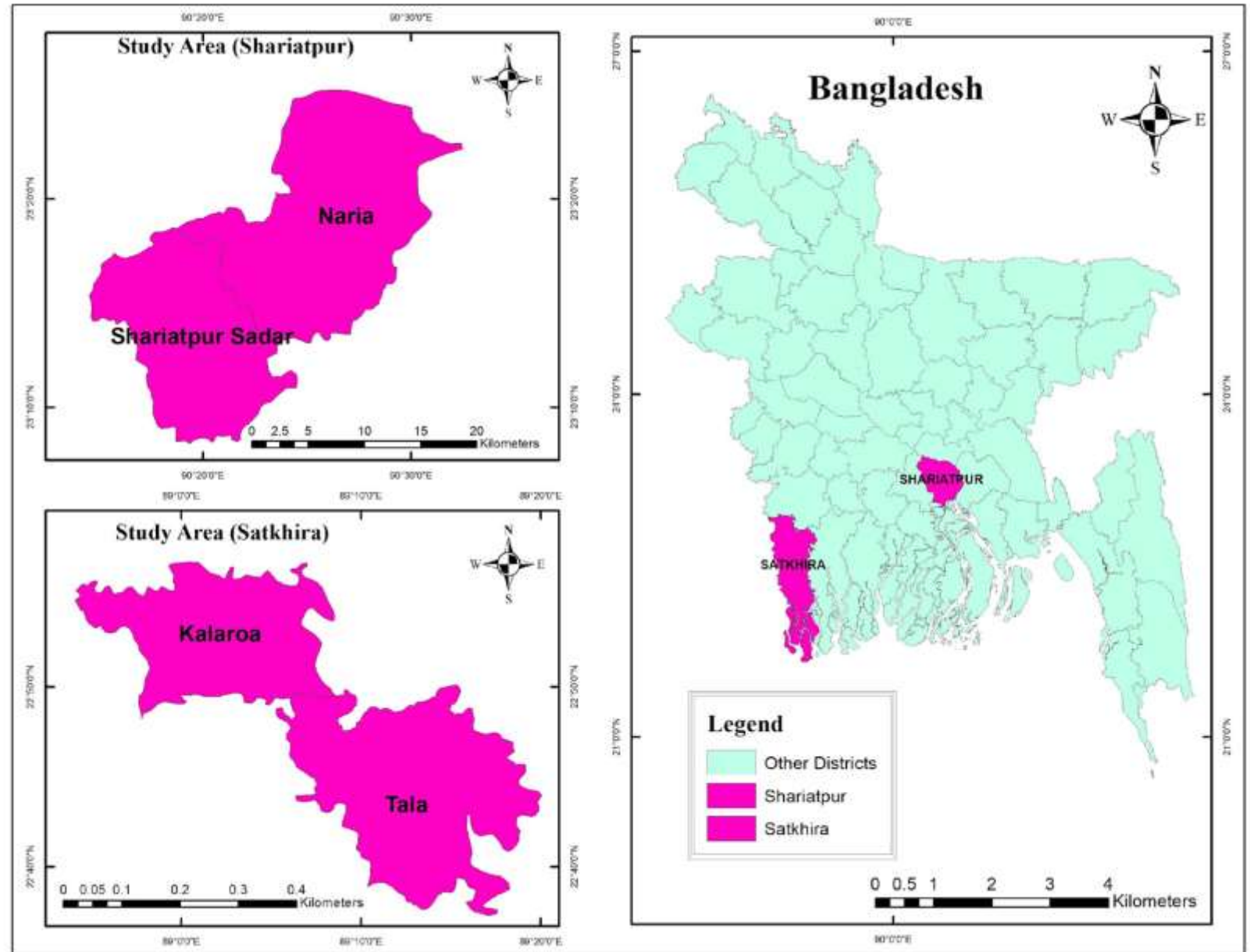
# Conceptual Framework





## Study Area

Two disaster-prone areas have been selected for the present study: Tala and Kalaroa Upazila of Satkhira district and Naria Upazila of Shariatpur.



## Study Design

**Approach:** Qualitative

**Source of Population Information:** Upazila Education Office and Local NGOs

**Tools:** KII, IDI and Case Study

**Sampling Technique:** Purposive

## Sample Distribution

- In-depth-Interview (IDI): 40 (start with sample, respondents)
- Key-Informant- Interview (KII): 15
- Case Study: 5



## Study Location and length

2 Divisions → 2 Districts → 4 Upazillas

**Duration:** This study was conducted between **June 2021 to October 2021**, inclusive of topic guide development, data collection, transcription, translation, analysis, and report generation. Due to countrywide lockdown amid corona pandemic, the researchers face difficulties during data collection.

## Inclusion Criteria

- People who were displaced due to climate induced natural disasters in last 15 years
- Women who faced violence by their partner and others
- Local stakeholders (Government officials, aged people, NGO workers, local politicians etc.)



# Overall Implementation Profile

## Ethical Issues, Privacy and Confidentiality

- Before conducting data collection of each respondent, they were informed about the purposes, type of information coverage, confidentiality, interview time, etc.
- Also, they had the rights to refuse in giving the interview. It was important to explain to respondents that their participation in the study is voluntary, their names or any identifying details will be kept strictly confidential.
- The study asked their verbal consent to take part in the survey.

## Health and Safety Measures Due to Pandemic

- Due to the full-blown pandemic situation strict health and safety measures were practiced.
- This was quite a risky venture as many faces to face interviews were conducted.
- The data collectors were exposed to infection threats.

Literature Review and  
Questionnaire Development

Piloting in Study Area  
(Shariatpur)

Finalizing Questionnaire and  
Data Collection

Data Cleaning and Analysis  
(Using Atlas.ti 9.1)

Finalization of Report,  
Reviewing and Submission

### Guidelines for KII, IDI

- Checklist for Humanitarian Organizations
- Checklist for Government Interventions
- Guidelines for Case Studies

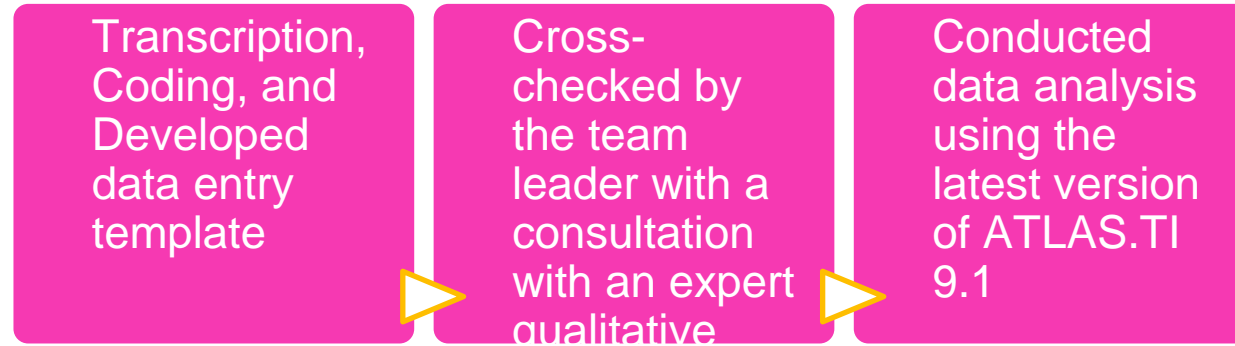
Qualitative: Using Participatory Tools and  
Techniques

Area: Satkhira and Shariatpur  
Sample: 60

# Data Management

## Data Transcription and Processing

Each interview was recorded by digital recorder. Each interview was transcribed by a research assistant and carefully checked by the expert researcher. The analyzed results were translated into English by RA & checked by expert researchers and supervisors before submission. For analyzing data, Atlas.ti Version 9 software was used.

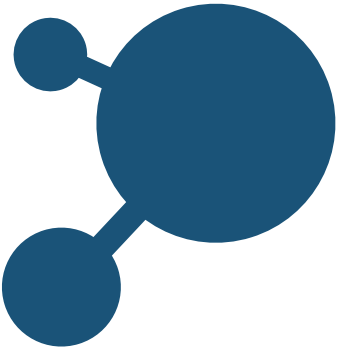


## Data Analysis



The categorization was done according to themes and sub-themes followed by compilation of information

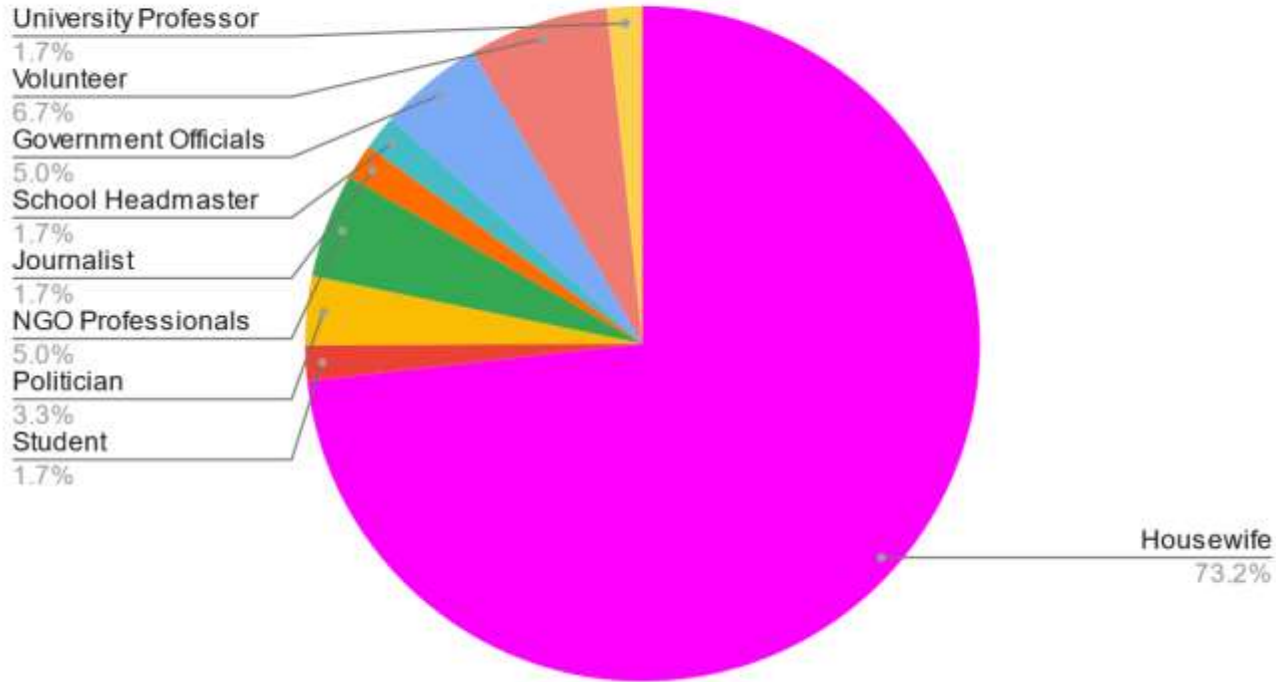
The verbatim were documented and recorded and then was supplemented with qualitative data.



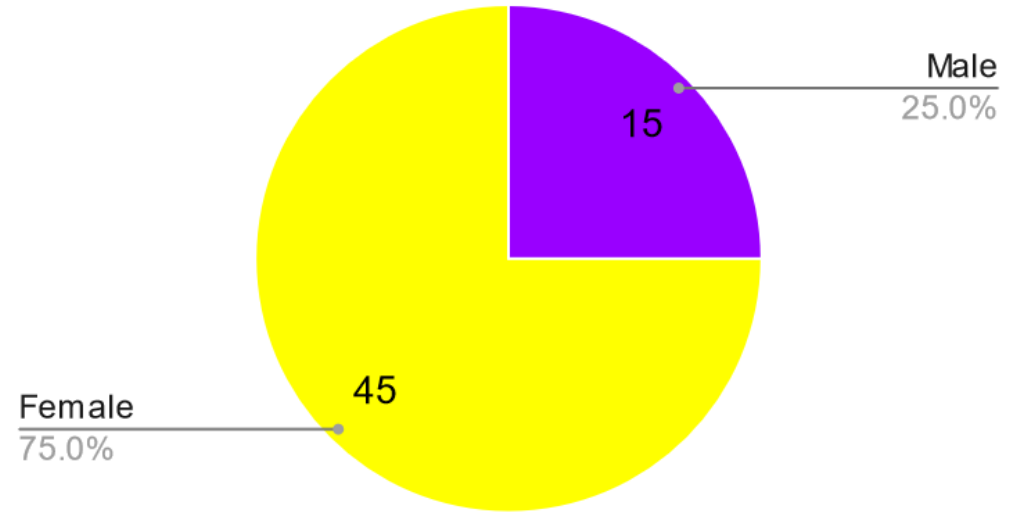
# Findings

## Demographic Profile

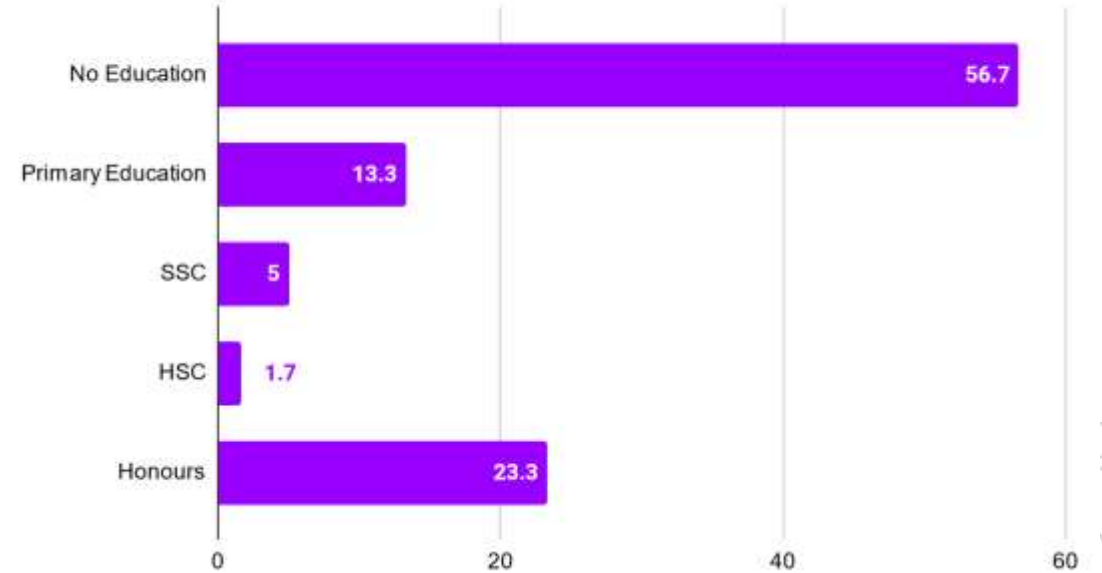
### Occupation of the Respondent



### Sex of the Respondent



### Level of Education



## Causes of Displacement

- ❑ Environmental (**cyclones, salinity, river erosion**) and social factors (**education, employment, exclusion**) are the predominant drivers behind the displacements in Satkhira and Shariatpur.
- ❑ Disaster can be blamed as the triggering factor behind GBV
- ❑ Whenever asked the reasons behind the displacement, our respondents from the field echoed words like ‘disasters,’ ‘river erosion’, ‘no choice’ time and time again.

## Causes of GBV

- ❑ The root causes of gender-based violence can be traced back to deeply ingrained patriarchal social norms
- ❑ Men succumb to despair and distress, which often provoke them to violence against the female members of their family
- ❑ Abject poverty repeatedly found to be fostering GBV, and women are the victims.



## Continue...

- Dowry has been observed as a prominent factor behind GBV in both the study locations.
- Most of the reasons behind GBV can be linked to the poor economic conditions and financial security of those families due to loss of houses and other belongings due to disasters

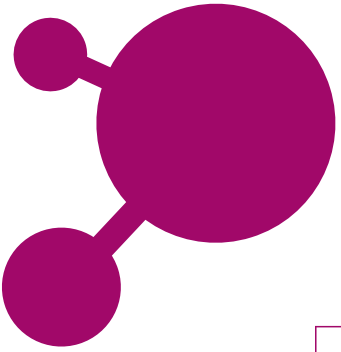
## Patterns of GBV

- Many women interviewed reported that they had experienced physical violence in both location
- Psychological violence against married women is extremely common and is practiced by their husbands on a regular basis (e.g., verbal abuse).
- Parents frequently retorted that they became impoverished because of providing dowries to their sons-in-law



## Disaster, Displacement, GBV

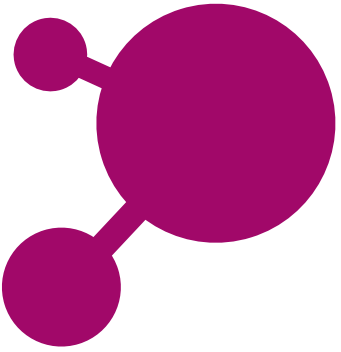
- ❑ Post-disaster trauma leads to severe conditions in families that result in men or head of the family lose their sense of control often leads to violence
- ❑ Displaced women in Satkhira mentioned the extensive prevalence of violence against them during the rainy season
- ❑ Many people were displaced for 2 to 3 or more times due to frequent disasters which do not allow them to build their settlement. Women and children become the worst sufferers of such condition.
- ❑ We also noted that the practice of polygamy is prevalent among these displaced people.
- ❑ Child marriage was raised as an outcome of climate-induced displacement among the displaced populace of Satkhira and Shariatpur. ***(see next slides)***



## Displacement & Child marriage

- ❑ Child marriage was found as the most common form of GBV in both study locations.
- ❑ As discussed, displacement create unstable condition for families where women considered to be 'burden', 'unproductive' and 'vulnerable'. Marriage assume to be a way out.
- ❑ Often underage girls are married to aged persons what leads to the psychological distance between them. Such circumstances also lead to physical distress.
- ❑ Lack of availability of pregnancy-related services leads to many health complications for child bride. Disasters make them even more vulnerable.





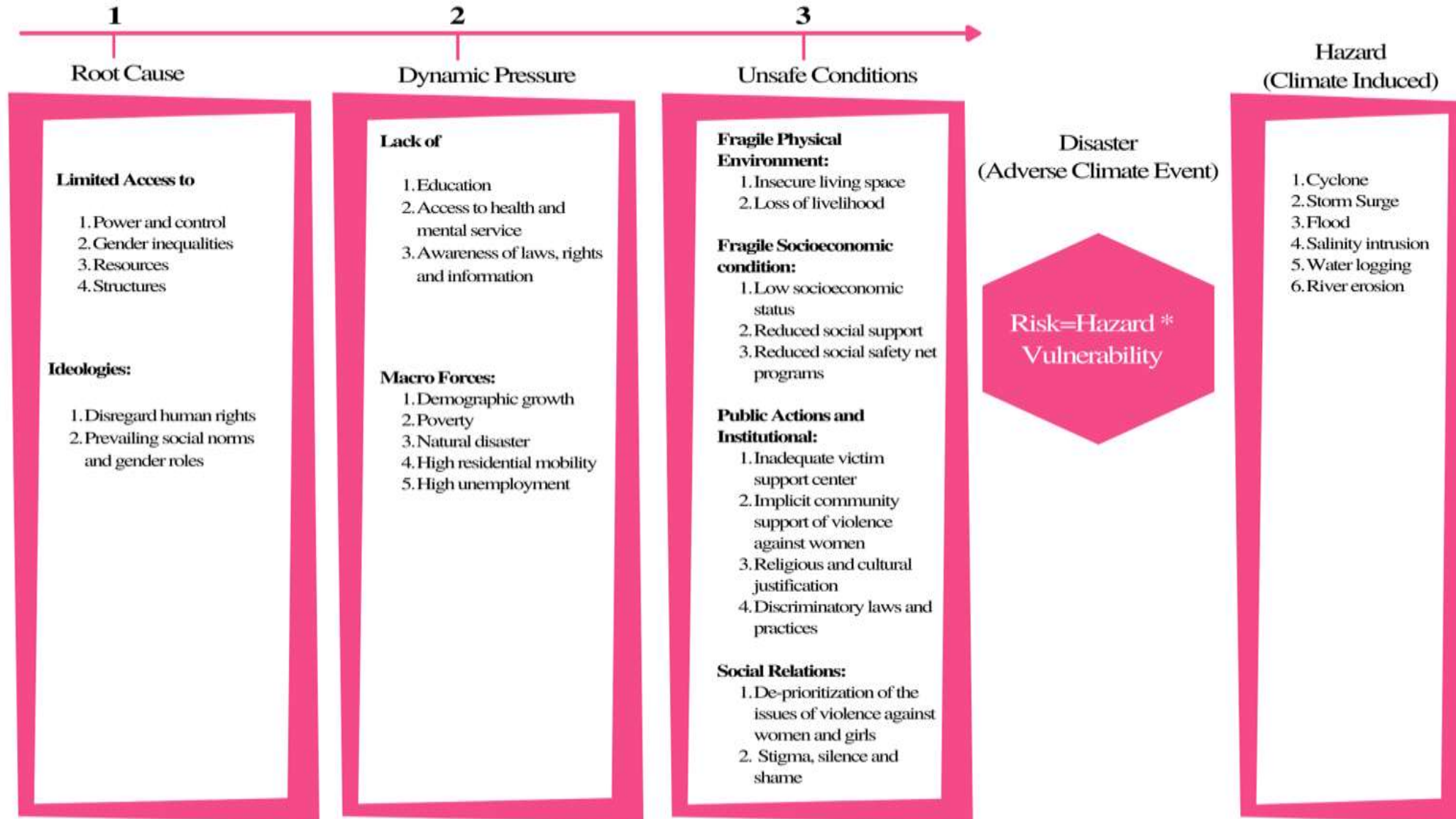
## Key Findings

- Displacement, financial crisis, gender-based violence, early marriages are found to be most critical.
- The majority of families have faced difficulties adapting to a new place after being displaced..
- Economic crisis and financial insecurity are the major reasons for gender-based violence
- Due to covid-19 Schools remains closed and half of the girls of school got married in this period in Satkhira.
- Women are not aware of menstrual hygiene as they use cloth instead of pads during their period





# The progression of Vulnerability on Violence against Women and Climate-induced displacement

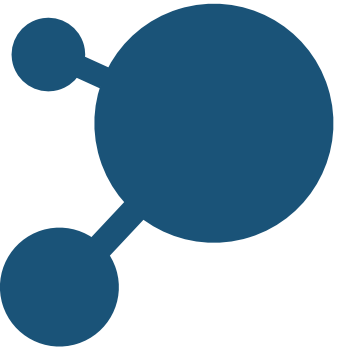




## Recommendations

- ❑ GBV need to be a part of Emergency Crisis Response plan in NPDM 2021-2025
- ❑ The future work plan must prioritize ensuring greater transparency and accountability in the implementation of all financial measures, relief distribution, and displacement reduction projects.
- ❑ Every disaster-prone area (community, unions, Parishad, Upazila, and Zila) should appoint local representatives who should be charged with updating reports in times of disaster
- ❑ The displacement protection fund may provide assistance to those who have been displaced as a result of a disaster.
- ❑ To address post-disaster violence, disaster management must take a broader, gendered perspective.
- ❑ Mechanisms for violence monitoring, reporting, and intervention must be put in place during the actual emergency.





## Conclusion



**“Gender Based Violence anywhere is a threat to peace and security everywhere”**

**- John F Kerry**

(United States special presidential envoy for climate)



An abstract graphic on the left side of the slide. It features a large purple circle containing the text 'THANK YOU'. This circle is connected by a purple line to a smaller purple circle above and to the right. Another purple line connects the large circle to a yellow circle below and to the right, which contains a purple circle. The yellow circle is further connected to a smaller yellow circle to its right and another smaller yellow circle below it. In the upper left area, there are four small, unconnected circles: a dark blue one, a pink one, a teal one, and a purple one.

**THANK  
YOU**

**ANY QUESTIONS?**