

COUNTRY BOAT: A CENTRAL PART OF CBDRM

Village Pathapur lies on the banks of Mahanadi and is one of the most vulnerable points in Banki Block of Cuttack District, Orissa.

The lack of any boat in Pathapur made rescue operations impossible. The villagers suggested for a local country boat to run rescue operations. The villagers provided labour, space and food for the carpenters.

The motorised boat is 35 feet long and four feet broad and can carry 40 people at a time.

On the night of 18th September 2008 there was a warning about a major flood. The boat was just about ready and the rescue task force hurried up with last minute preparations and the boat was in operation full swing as the flood came.

Now the villagers could rescue the marooned people sitting on the top of their houses. They rescued sick, elderly and disabled to safer places. A total of 600 people were rescued in Pathapur and neighbouring villages, a sick boy was brought safely to hospital and a pregnant woman was rescued shortly before the delivery of a child.

The villagers of Pathapur are full of thanks to DIPECHO, Sambandh and Welthungerhilfe



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