

# Climate heroine

## My name is Imrana

and I'm from Assam. I'm eleven and I help teach younger children how to be safe during a flood.

I am teaching my five little sisters and one little brother to swim. The other children from my village join in too, so I'm teaching them all!

I say to them, 'climb on my back and I will swim along with you'.

We practise in the still waters of the beels (lakes). The Brahmaputra River is too strong so we stay away from there. Sometimes dolphins come into the beels. We always try to swim with one. They are so beautiful to see.

When they are getting good we go on a raft to the deep waters. I put them there and row for a while. Then I call, 'swim to me' and they come.

The water can rise quickly. It turns black and moves in fierce circles. I tell the children to get onto the raised platforms immediately.

When the water gets too high we go to the shelters in rafts. These are made from banana stalks and tarpaulin and rock from side to side. It is very important to know how to swim and to hold on for safety.

If there are no rafts we swim to the shelters. We stay away from strong currents. These come from west to east and they break over the land with anger.



I teach the children to take the help of the water hyacinths. We hold on to them in the fierce waters.

These are some of the things I do to prepare children for floods. It makes me feel proud to help my community in this way.