

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Bangladesh: Floods

Emergency appeal n° MDRBD002
GLIDE FF-2007-000080-BGD
Operations update n° 14
22 October 2008

Period covered by this Operations Update: 19 July 2008 to 31 August 2008

Revised Appeal budget: CHF 5.095 million (USD 4.85 million or EUR 3.12 million)

Appeal coverage: 94%; Outstanding needs: CHF 296,371 (USD 254,540 or EUR 197,402).

[<click here for the Emergency Appeal>](#)
[<click here for the interim financial report>](#)

Appeal history:

- Emergency Appeal launched on 3 July 2007 for CHF 842,257 (USD 684,762 or EUR 510,459) for six months to assist 133,255 beneficiaries.
- Emergency Appeal revised on 16 August 2007 to focus on the floods. The budget was increased to CHF 7,113,119 (USD 5,907,905 or EUR 4,310,980) for eight months to assist 1,200,000 beneficiaries due to the deteriorating situation.
- Emergency Appeal budget revised on June 2008 to CHF 5,095,836 (USD 4,851,236 or EUR 3,118,852)
- Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) allocated on 20 June 2007: CHF 250,000

Summary:

Since November 2007, the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), with the support of the International Federation, have provided assistance to up to 145,665 families with food and non-food items, including sarees, lungies and family kits in 42 out of 64 districts affected by the floods. Additionally, non-food items such as blankets and family kits were distributed along with seed and saplings to 11,200 families in the four most affected districts. Moreover, 50,220 families received basic health care services and 9,900 families benefited from the water and sanitation project. All these activities were achieved and completed by March 2008.

Due to some leftover and unspent funds, further changing needs, and the distribution of food and non-food by other agencies, the project was extended until end September 2008. Considering the reality that some of the activities still needs to be completed, a request was received from BDRCS to extend the operation for another three months due to limited human resources and capacity of the BDRCS and the pressing need to support the ongoing Cyclone Sidr operations as well. Thus, with the on-going operations the expectations and needs in the affected areas, an extension until 31 December 2008 is requested for in this operations update. The current extension will also focus on the completion of the ongoing activities as stipulated in the plan of action.

The activities that have not been completed in the revised plan of action (April 2008) are to continue within the extended period. These include furnishing and stockpiling of buffer stock for future disasters; water and sanitation activities; housing material support; the capacity building of BDRCS by providing vehicles as well as the updating of the BDRCS relief manual; and renovation/material support for units. Please click [here](#) to access current plan of action detailing remaining activities that will be carried out by 31 December 2008.

The logistic is to finalize the procurement of relief items. Some items have already been delivered, such as first aid and rescue kits. Several meetings regarding the extension of the project have been held between the BDRCS and the International Federation since March 2008. On 14 August, BDRCS have decided to implement all the projects that includes housing materials support; the water and sanitation project consisting of three components; and capacity building as mentioned in the extended revised plan of action.

The lessons learned workshop and relief management training was successfully conducted in two sessions with two participants from each of the 24 districts. The first session was conducted from 3-5 August, where 12 units, five persons from the BDRCS national headquarters and two persons from the International Federation participated. The second was held from 12-14 August. The same number of units and people participated on these days.

<For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal at <http://www.ifrc.org>>

The situation

In addition to the persisting problem of many of the 2007 floods beneficiaries who are yet to recover from the impact of loss of crops, the challenging threat of spiralling prices of essential commodities including basic staple food items such as rice and cooking oil, are still a threat to the well-being of the affected people. The prices that started rising in early 2008 continued to do so throughout the reporting period due to various reasons including the fuel price hike.

Though the monsoon season has started, comparatively at present Bangladesh is less affected than last year, though water flowing into the north-eastern region from the neighbouring country has resulted in the swelling of the main rivers, causing ten out of 17 to flow above danger level¹. It has also been reported that 24 water level monitoring stations indicated a rise in water level, while the remaining 49 are receding or at normal levels². As of the third week of August, ten districts were inundated and about 300,000 families were reported taking shelter at higher and dry areas. This has caused damage mostly to the crops that have just been planted. River embankment and soil erosion in Faridpur, Shariatpur, Manikgonj and Gaibanda was quite vast. The overall situation is improving, with the water levels subsiding in most of the rivers.

Due to continuous rainfall that took place in the third week of August in the district of Chittagong, a landslide occurred, resulting in a collapsed wall, killing 11 people from three families. In total, the death toll stands at 27. The government took steps to evacuate about 200 families living along the foot and terrace of the hill and placed them in temporary shelters in public buildings. BDRCS cyclone preparedness programme (CPP) volunteers were actively involved in the evacuation process. The government provided dry food, rice and cash to the beneficiaries. No further intervention was needed by the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

Red Cross Red Crescent action

Overall objective: The urgent needs (health and care, water and sanitation, food and non-food items, clothing, household items, etc.) of 197,670 unassisted families (988,350 people) are met, the outbreak of communicable diseases is prevented and early recovery needs are supported, while BDRCS capacity is enhanced.

Objective 1: 182,970 severely affected and unassisted families (914,850 people) receive additional emergency food rations and essential non-food items.

Due to various factors mentioned in the summary, BDRCS has requested for a three-month extension in order to execute all the activities as stipulated in the earlier revised plan of action. The decision was made after considering the continuing need to assist the most vulnerable families in 31 flood-prone areas.

The activities of the extension will involve the installation of the planned 1,500 individual latrines; the installation of 500 tube wells with raised platforms/upgrading of existing ones for 10,000 families; have access to safe drinking water and other household needs during the flood season; and construct 50 community latrines at the site where the flood victims usually take shelter during floods, as most of these centres have very poor and unhygienic sanitary facilities. All the projects are expected to be completed within the next three months.

Objective 2: Basic health care services (including preventive and promotive health) are provided to 50,220 families (251,100 people) of the most severely affected population for two and a half months.

As proposed in the extended and revised plan of action, a quotation for an ambulance has been done, which will enhance the image of BDRCS and expand the activities, especially during emergencies. One of the BDRCS trucks was also planned to be transformed into a multi-emergency vehicle which will enable bed six patients while transferring them to the hospital. At the same time, it will also be equipped with basic office equipment and can easily be transformed into an emergency relief mobile centre.

¹ Source: Flood Forecasting and Warning Center (FFWC) dated 27th August 2008

² Source: Flood Forecasting and Warning Center (FFWC) dated 27th August 2008

Objective 3: 14,700 families severely affected by the floods will receive the necessary construction materials for damaged houses and/or livelihoods support, through in-kind goods.

Many more families who have lost their houses during the last year's flood and river embankment are still leaving in makeshift houses, made of thick paper board, plastic sheet, ragged clothes, dried leaves and whatever they could salvage in order to have what they call a shelter. Due to poverty and great loss during the last flood, some of the affected houses were badly damaged and remained as they were. With the material and basic tools provided from this project, it is hoped that the targeted vulnerable families will be assisted in restoring or reconstructing their houses. BDRCS plans to extend their intervention in 31 districts.

Objective 4: The enhancement of capacity of BDRCS to respond effectively to disasters.

The lessons learnt workshop and relief management training was successfully conducted on two separate occasions. Each workshop consisted of a day dedicated wholly to lessons learnt and two days for relief management training, which covered various topics related to relief activities, such as the Sphere standard, needs assessment, code of conduct, cooperation and coordination with other actors and government, the Fundamental Principles, finance, logistic procedure and reporting.

The first workshop was conducted from the 3-5 August and second was from 12-14 August. On each occasion, the total number of participants included 12 units, with two participants from each unit plus five people from BDRCS national headquarters and two from the International Federation. The knowledge gained from this workshop shall be shared with all other members of the unit, which is very important and will boost the units' capacity to respond more efficiently and effectively in the next relief operation.

A technical committee has been formed for updating the BDRCS relief manual. The manual is expected to be completed by December 2008.

The tendering process of vehicles planned for BDRCS relief unit is in progress. One jeep and a mini bus will be procured for the relief department, which will be essential and more productive in delivering relief assistance. In addition,, the plan to equip 31 units in flood-prone districts with necessities and renovation of the unit office has been agreed by BDRCS.

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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**[<Interim financial report and updated plan of action below;
click here to return to the title page>](#)**

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRBD002 - Bangladesh - Floods, Landslides, Tornado

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/6-2008/9
Budget Timeframe	2007/6-2008/12
Appeal	MDRBD002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	5,095,836					5,095,836
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
Cash contributions						
American Red Cross	150,535					150,535
Australian Red Cross	15,076					15,076
Australian Red Cross (from Australian Government)	368,862					368,862
Bangladesh - Private Donors	16,006					16,006
British Red Cross	475,307					475,307
Canadian Red Cross	86,130					86,130
Danish Red Cross	102,835					102,835
ECHO	664,000					664,000
Finnish Red Cross	279,600					279,600
German Red Cross	131,710					131,710
Hong Kong Red Cross	165,496					165,496
Intel Foundation	55,900					55,900
Irish Government	328,800					328,800
Japanese Red Cross	314,786					314,786
Korea Republic Red Cross	50,000					50,000
Liechtenstein Red Cross	18,433					18,433
Monaco Red Cross	16,500					16,500
Netherlands Red Cross	514,654					514,654
New York Office (from Kraft Foods)	13,125					13,125
New York Office (from Western Union Foundation)	35,001					35,001
Norwegian Red Cross	98					98
On Line donations	17,516					17,516
Singapore Red Cross	4,221					4,221
Singapore Red Cross (from Singapore Government)	23,921					23,921
Swedish Red Cross	109,140					109,140
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)	179,400					179,400
Swiss Red Cross	105,850					105,850
United Arab Emirates Red Crescent	12,282					12,282
United States - Private Donors	1,328					1,328
VERF/WHO Voluntary Emergency Relief	2,000					2,000
C1. Cash contributions	4,258,509					4,258,509
Outstanding pledges (Revalued)						
ECHO	157,000					157,000
OPEC Fund For International Developm	273,500					273,500
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	430,500					430,500
Inkind Goods & Transport						
Norwegian Red Cross	1,709					1,709
Swiss Red Cross	91,000					91,000
C3. Inkind Goods & Transport	92,709					92,709
Inkind Personnel						
Netherlands Red Cross	17,747					17,747
C4. Inkind Personnel	17,747					17,747
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	4,799,465					4,799,465
D. Total Funding = B + C	4,799,465					4,799,465

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRBD002 - Bangladesh - Floods, Landslides, Tornado

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/6-2008/9
Budget Timeframe	2007/6-2008/12
Appeal	MDRBD002
Budget	APPEAL

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Appeal Coverage	94%					94%
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II. Balance of Funds

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	4,799,465					4,799,465
E. Expenditure	-3,005,940					-3,005,940
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	1,793,525					1,793,525

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MDRBD002 - Bangladesh - Floods, Landslides, Tornado

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/6-2008/9
Budget Timeframe	2007/6-2008/12
Appeal	MDRBD002
Budget	APPEAL

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III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		5,095,836					5,095,836	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	833,333	90,000					90,000	743,333
Clothing & textiles	715,770	618,203					618,203	97,567
Food	1,206,123	1,193,753					1,193,753	12,369
Seeds,Plants	127,119	127,682					127,682	-563
Water & Sanitation	434,831	99,670					99,670	335,161
Medical & First Aid	8,475	7,482					7,482	992
Other Supplies & Services	475,202	134,802					134,802	340,399
Total Supplies	3,800,851	2,271,592					2,271,592	1,529,259
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles	138,983	674					674	138,309
Computers & Telecom	22,458	12,399					12,399	10,059
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.	2,034	23					23	2,011
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	163,475	13,096					13,096	150,379
Transport & Storage								
Storage	29,904	25,461					25,461	4,443
Distribution & Monitoring	50,390	50,920					50,920	-531
Transport & Vehicle Costs	109,154	19,159					19,159	89,996
Total Transport & Storage	189,448	95,540					95,540	93,909
Personnel								
International Staff	257,400	207,221					207,221	50,179
Regionally Deployed Staff	1,650	1,650					1,650	0
National Staff	51,250	47,713					47,713	3,537
National Society Staff	68,679	22,938					22,938	45,741
Consultants	3,150	3,150					3,150	0
Total Personnel	382,129	282,672					282,672	99,457
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	32,772	13,911					13,911	18,861
Total Workshops & Training	32,772	13,911					13,911	18,861
General Expenditure								
Travel	29,831	17,698					17,698	12,133
Information & Public Relation	25,593	12,221					12,221	13,373
Office Costs	51,525	23,065					23,065	28,460
Communications	23,729	15,476					15,476	8,253
Financial Charges	59,322	42,127					42,127	17,195
Other General Expenses	5,932	1,861					1,861	4,071
Total General Expenditure	195,932	112,447					112,447	83,485
Programme Support								
Program Support	331,229	194,048					194,048	137,182
Total Programme Support	331,229	194,048					194,048	137,182
Services								
Services & Recoveries		12,146					12,146	-12,146
Total Services		12,146					12,146	-12,146
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		10,489					10,489	-10,489
Total Operational Provisions		10,489					10,489	-10,489
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	5,095,836	3,005,940					3,005,940	2,089,896
VARIANCE (C - D)		2,089,896					2,089,896	

Bangladesh floods operation 2007
Extension request

Supporting formats

Overall Objective:

The urgent needs (health and care, water and sanitation, food, clothing, household items, shelter etc.) of 240,000 unassisted families (1.2 million people) are met, the outbreak of disease is prevented and early recovery needs are supported, while BDRCS capacity is enhanced.

Plan of action

Objective 1: Relief (food and non-food): 170,000 severely affected and unassisted families (850,000 people) receive additional emergency food rations and essential non-food items.			
Activities	Achieved	Pending/proposed activity	Comments / When and how pending activities will be implemented
<i>Distribution of F&NFI for 140,000 families</i> Food and non food , Rice: 20 Kg. Lentil: 5 Kg. Edible oil: 2 Ltr. Salt: 1 Kg. Saree: 1 Pc. Lungi: 1 Pc.	Distributed to 67,500 families (337,500 people).	No more activities under this due to changing needs and distribution of food and non-food met by other agencies.	In total 80,165 families were assisted with food and non-food items.
Family kit (cooking utensils, saree, lungi, bathing soap, washing soap, candle and matches).	Distributed to 12,665 families (63,325 people) including 6,665 from the buffer stock.	Nil	
2 Blankets each for 30,000 families	Distributed to 65,200 families (326,000 people)	Completed	One blanket per family was given as per the request from the NS. (In Ops Update11 - "It was initially planned to distribute 60,500 blankets but request from BDRCS to assist more vulnerable victims identified during the winter season resulted in distributing an additional 4,700 blankets. As a result, a total of 65,200 blankets 58 districts and 600 family kits to 20 districts have been distributed")
Tents (was not in the appeal)	Distributed to 300 families (1,500 people)	Nil	Nil
10,000 Sarees and 10,000 lungies for buffer stock		10,000 Sarees and 10,000 lungies as per the revised plan	Procurement will be completed by December 2008. Buffer stock will be kept for future emergency response.
8,000 Blankets for buffer stock		8,000 blankets as per the revised plan	
16,700 Family kits for buffer stock		16,700 Family kits as per the revised plan.	

Objective 2: Health and care : Basic health care services (including preventive and promotive health) are provided to 70,000 families (350,000 people) of the most severely affected population for two and half months.			
Activities	Achieved	Pending/proposed activity	Comments / When and how pending activities will be implemented
Mobile medical teams to provide basic health care	5 mobile medical teams were deployed and provided health care to 20,964 patients, distributed 117,500 WPTs and 49,470 ORS packets	Nil	Nil
Distribution of WPT	40,320 families (201,600 people) received 50 WPTs each (including the distribution by the mobile medical teams)	Nil	Nil
Installation of new tube-wells with raised platforms/upgrading of existing ones	65 Tube-wells installed for 1,300 families (6,500 people)	Installation of 500 tube-wells for 10,000 families (50,000 people) as per the revised plan.	Will be completed by December 2008 through hiring a professional agency under the technical supervision of BDRCS/International Federation.
Upgrading facilities of existing tube-wells	Facilities of 100 tube-wells were upgraded for 2,000 families (10,000 people)		
Installation of individual latrines	900 individual latrines for 900 families (4,500 people).		
Construction of community latrines	12 community latrines for 2,400 families (12,000 people)	50 community latrines for 10,000 families (50,000 people) as per the revised plan.	
Objective 3: Construction and Livelihoods: 15,000 families severely affected by the floods have received the necessary construction materials for damaged houses and/or livelihoods support, through in kind goods or under a special cash voucher programme system, by December 2007.			
Activities	Achieved	Pending/proposed activity	Comments / When and how pending activities will be implemented
Distribution of seeds and saplings (livelihood)	Suitable seeds and saplings distributed to 11,200 families (56,000 people)	Nil	Nil
Construction materials	Nil	Procurement and distribution of housing material (GI sheet and tools) for 3,500 families (17,500 people) as per revised plan	Will be completed by December 2008.
Objective 4: Capacity building: The capacity of BDRCS to respond effectively to disasters is enhanced			
Activities	Achieved	Pending/proposed activity	Comments / When and how pending activities will be implemented
Repair or renovation of BDRCS unit and NHQ offices	Nil	Minor repairing or renovation works of 10 units.	Will be completed by December 2008 by the selected BDRCS units.
Organize lessons learned	Two lessons learned	Completed	Completed

workshop	workshop were held with 80 officials/unit representatives from relevant BDRCS units and departments		
Updating BDRCS relief manual	Nil	Updating BDRCS relief manual	A technical committee was formed for updating the manual. Expected to be completed by December 2008.
Refresher training of disaster relief management	Twice a three day long refresher training was held, comprised of 80 officials/unit representatives from relevant BDRCS units and departments	Nil	Nil
Emergency response kits	Procured 70 sets of rescue kits and 70 sets of first aid boxes.	Procurement of 100 raincoats and 100 vests	
Logistic			
Ambulance for BDRCS		Ambulance for BDRCS	Should be available by December 2008.
Relief vehicles		Relief vehicles	Should be available by December 2008.