

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° 12
10 June 2008

Period covered by this Operations Update: 17
March to 18 May 2008

Appeal target: CHF 7.1 million (USD 5.9
million or EUR 4.3 million)

Appeal coverage: 66%; Outstanding needs:
CHF 2.3 million (USD 2,194,390 or EUR
1,440,069).

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

Appeal history:

- An 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.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) allocated on 20 June 2007: CHF 250,000



A BDRCS volunteer numbering the raised platform of a completed tube-well in Shariatpur district, to keep a record of the number of tube-wells in each district.

Summary:

With the support of the International Federation and donors, the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society have implemented and completed all planned relief/recovery activities initiated under this appeal framework. These include basic food and non-food support to 67,500 severely affected and unassisted families (337,500 people) in 42 districts; blankets to 65,200 affected families in 61 districts; basic health care services to 50,220 families (251,100 people); under recovery - restoring 100 water systems for 5,500 families together with 65 new installations; erection of 912 sanitation latrines with raised platforms; distribution of water purification tablets to 40,320 families for 30 days including promotion of personal safe hygiene messages with special focus on the uses of water purification tablets; water and sanitation support and safe hygiene promotion including distribution of community sanitation tools for another 4,400 families in four districts; livelihood support through the distribution of wheat, onion and rice seeds to 15,000 affected marginal farmers and their vulnerable families. With the extension of the floods operation due to some unspent money, new activities highlighted in the previous operations update (n° 11) have been set to be carried out by the end of 2008.

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

The situation

Due to extensive damage of crops caused by two consecutive spells of floods, prices of essential goods spiraled over the last six months. According to a national daily, high inflationary pressure that will persist for some time will continue to affect the poor in the areas affected by floods even after a bumper boro (rice) harvest. The newspaper

quoted researchers stating that even after the bumper production of boro, the inflationary pressure on livelihoods of the urban population would continue, affecting the standards of living of those affected by the floods. With the approaching monsoon season, it is essential that those living in flood prone areas be assisted to enable them to prepare themselves for the upcoming floods.

An evaluation team comprising of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), International Federation and an external evaluator submitted an evaluation report on 26 April 2008, based on participatory meetings with beneficiaries in two of the affected districts, viz. Manikgonj and Shariatpur. The beneficiaries expressed their satisfaction with the packages of relief items provided to them by the BDRCS. Community appreciation was also received on the risk reduction approach that had been initiated during construction of raised latrines and community latrines at the flood centre/shelter and the installation of water systems with the raised platforms to ensure access to safe drinking water, practise of safe hygiene and meeting other household needs during the upcoming flood season.

The beneficiaries who had received wheat seeds under the operation, have completed harvesting for wheat flour. Farmers who had received paddy seeds are now busy harvesting for rice. They will benefit from this as a long-term support.

With the extension of the floods operation due to some unspent money, new activities highlighted in the [previous operations update](#) (n° 11) have been set to be carried out by the end of 2008, and preparations to carry these out have started. Requisitions of procurement and replenishment of the disaster preparedness buffer-stock for non-food relief commodities and emergency kits, to combat future disasters, have been submitted. Discussions on considering other proposed activities such as water and sanitation projects, purchase of vehicles for BDRCS, renovation of ten BDRCS unit offices, two old trucks to be transformed into a mobile office and construction of houses for displaced people, have taken place. It is anticipated that the decisions from the discussions will be finalized soon. The activities are expected to be completed by early September 2008.

Coordination and partnerships

The ECHO partnership boosted up the whole operation and all the activities funded by ECHO have been successfully implemented. An evaluation team visited all three projects and managed to capture the success stories from beneficiaries on the overall relief/recovery programme support under this appeal framework. The beneficiaries expressed their gratitude for ECHO's contribution and support to make these vulnerable communities more disaster resilient.

Regular meetings between the International Federation and the BDRCS to set dates, criteria and units to be involved in trainings/workshops for Red Crescent Youth (RCY) took place during this period. Through the trainings/workshops, it is aimed to enhance the RCY capacity to provide better services, understanding and to be more efficient in future relief operations.

Red Cross Red Crescent action

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.

Objective 1: 170,000 severely affected and unassisted families (850,000 people) receive additional emergency food rations and essential non-food items

The overall relief distribution, as given in the table below, was completed by mid-March 2008. The blankets distributed were just in time to combat the cold wave of the winter season.

Relief distribution table

Sl. No.	Items description	Number of families covered	Number of people covered	Number of District covered.
1	Food and non food , Rice: 20 kilogrammes Lentil: 5 kilogrammes Edible oil: 2 litres Salt: 1 kilogrammes Saree (women's clothing item): 1 piece Lungi (men's clothing item): 1 piece	67,500	337,500	42
2	Family kit	12,665	63,325	41

3	Seeds and saplings	22,400	112,000	4
4	Blanket	65,200	326,000	61
5	Tents	300	1,500	4
6	Watsan	6,600	33,000	4

The BDRCS/International Federation distribution packages of food and non-food items were considered to be satisfactory in quantity and quality, though the beneficiaries requested an increase in the amount of rice distributed from 20 kilogrammes to 40 kilogrammes in future. The distribution of a sari and a lungi (women's and men's clothing items) were appreciated by the beneficiaries and considered an immense assistance for them, especially for those who had lost all their belongings in the floods.

Objective 2: 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 under this objective have been implemented through trained community based disaster management volunteers and completed as planned. Approximately 40,320 families received water purification tablets to provide them adequate safe drinking water for 15-30 days. The volunteers also disseminated personal hygiene messages and information on how to use water purification tablets. After discussions with ECHO, the primary health care activities were modified and water and sanitation activities were implemented. The communities were involved in the selection of appropriate sites for installing and upgrading water options, as well as for the installation of sanitary latrines for the provision of safe water supply and hygienic sanitary facilities during future floods. With the support of ECHO, 100 tube wells were upgraded, 65 new tube wells installed with raised platforms and 912 raised sanitary latrines were installed to directly benefit 5,500 families in four districts, both during emergencies and other times.

In addition, under the modified support from ECHO, 4,400 families have been assisted with water and sanitation support like sanitary toilets, community toilets, tube wells with raised platforms and tube wells in three flood affected districts. The target beneficiaries have also been provided with water and sanitation kits (one 40 litre water container, one 20 litre bucket, 1 mug, 2 washing soaps, 2 bathing soaps, 2 kilogrammes bleaching powder, 1 cleaning brush, 2 pair of sandals and 1 towel per family) in order to promote personal hygiene of the vulnerable people. Hygiene promotion was carried out along with all the above activities through information, education, communication (IEC) material developed specially to cover the operation.

Objective 3: 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.

The livelihood assistance has been completed and all the targeted beneficiaries have been reached. The group provided with wheat have benefited from the seeds given by BDRCS after harvesting wheat from the last harvest as they kept some mother seeds for the next cultivation. This was possible since the seeds provided by BDRCS were of high quality. The other group of farmers who received paddy has now almost completed harvesting their rice crop. These two groups are contended with the type of seeds/paddy they have been provided by the BDRCS.

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

The proposed relief workshop to enhance the capacity of the BDRCS to respond to disasters efficiently and effectively has been rescheduled for early June 2008 due to increased involvement of BDRCS in the Cyclone SIDR operation.

Communications – Advocacy and public information

The International Federation's Geneva office supported a technical person to visit flood-affected areas of Kurigram on 5 May 2008 to film a documentary on climate change. The purpose of the visit was to get testimonies of people affected by the 2007 floods in the char (island) areas and to highlight their change in life due to frequent floods and river erosion. The documentary will be distributed among national societies, international organizations and NGOs globally to highlight the impact of climate change in Bangladesh. In addition, testimonies of flood affected people will be shown at the general meeting of the Global Humanitarian Forum, scheduled for June 2008.

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 below;
click here to return to the title page>](#)**

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRBD002 - Bangladesh - Floods, Landslides, Torndao

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/6-2008/4
Budget Timeframe	2007/6-2008/9
Appeal	MDRBD002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget		7,113,118				7,113,118
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
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
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		513,510				513,510
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
Other		1,144				1,144
Singapore Red Cross		23,958				23,958
Singapore Red Cross (from Singapore Government)		4,184				4,184
Swedish Red Cross		109,140				109,140
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)		179,400				179,400
Swiss Red Cross		100,000				100,000
United Arab Emirates Red Crescent		12,282				12,282
United States - Private Donors		80				80
VERF/WHO Voluntary Emergency Relief		2,000				2,000
C1. Cash contributions		4,195,511				4,195,511
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
ECHO		161,500				161,500
Intel Foundation		52,000				52,000
OPEC Fund For International Developm		260,000				260,000
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)		473,500				473,500
<u>Inkind Goods & Transport</u>						
Norwegian Red Cross		1,709				1,709
C3. Inkind Goods & Transport		1,709				1,709
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
Other		17,600				17,600
C4. Inkind Personnel		17,600				17,600
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)		4,688,320				4,688,320
D. Total Funding = B + C		4,688,320				4,688,320

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRBD002 - Bangladesh - Floods, Landslides, Torndao

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/6-2008/4
Budget Timeframe	2007/6-2008/9
Appeal	MDRBD002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

Appeal Coverage	66%	66%
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II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		4,688,320				4,688,320
E. Expenditure		-2,716,679				-2,716,679
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		1,971,640				1,971,640

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRBD002 - Bangladesh - Floods, Landslides, Torndao

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/6-2008/4
Budget Timeframe	2007/6-2008/9
Appeal	MDRBD002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		7,113,118					7,113,118	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	648,150						648,150	
Clothing & textiles	1,334,000		622,379			622,379	711,621	
Food	2,928,800		1,193,753			1,193,753	1,735,047	
Seeds,Plants	92,500		125,218			125,218	-32,718	
Water & Sanitation	270,200		96,093			96,093	174,107	
Medical & First Aid	104,300		5,709			5,709	98,591	
Utensils & Tools	259,000						259,000	
Other Supplies & Services	129,600		121,618			121,618	7,982	
Total Supplies	5,766,550		2,164,772			2,164,772	3,601,778	
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles	74,074						74,074	
Computers & Telecom	16,111		3,382			3,382	12,729	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.	25,370						25,370	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	115,555		3,382			3,382	112,174	
Transport & Storage								
Storage	85,056		19,073			19,073	65,983	
Distribution & Monitoring	111,067		44,079			44,079	66,988	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	72,667		13,646			13,646	59,021	
Total Transport & Storage	268,789		76,797			76,797	191,991	
Personnel								
International Staff Payroll Benefits	214,400		123,323			123,323	91,077	
Regionally Deployed Staff	33,600		1,650			1,650	31,950	
National Staff	33,111		29,959			29,959	3,152	
National Society Staff	68,444		15,765			15,765	52,680	
Consultants			3,150			3,150	-3,150	
Total Personnel	349,556		173,846			173,846	175,709	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	13,890		5,247			5,247	8,642	
Total Workshops & Training	13,890		5,247			5,247	8,642	
General Expenditure								
Travel	71,630		17,428			17,428	54,202	
Information & Public Relation	24,982		10,633			10,633	14,349	
Office Costs	21,110		18,572			18,572	2,539	
Communications	13,333		12,898			12,898	436	
Financial Charges	1,667		34,609			34,609	-32,942	
Other General Expenses	3,704		853			853	2,850	
Total General Expenditure	136,426		94,992			94,992	41,434	
Programme Support								
Program Support	462,353		175,857			175,857	286,496	
Total Programme Support	462,353		175,857			175,857	286,496	
Services								
Services & Recoveries			9,739			9,739	-9,739	
Total Services			9,739			9,739	-9,739	
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			12,046			12,046	-12,046	
Total Operational Provisions			12,046			12,046	-12,046	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	7,113,118		2,716,679			2,716,679	4,396,439	
VARIANCE (C - D)			4,396,439			4,396,439		