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Operation Update Report

Sri Lanka: Cargo Ship Fire



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF n° MDRLK013	GLIDE n° FR-2021-000067-LKA
Operation update n° 1; 22 September 2021	Timeframe covered by this update: 13 June-10 September 2021
Operation start date: 13 June 2021	Operation timeframe: 6 months, 31 December 2021
Funding requirements (CHF ¹):481,250	
N° of people being assisted: 15,000 people (3,000 households)	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: The Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS) is a voluntary humanitarian organization; SLRCS has a strong branch network in all the 25 districts of the country, which is well capable in providing relief in times of disasters/emergencies. Over 150 staff and 7,000 active volunteers are trained in disaster response. National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT), Branch Disaster Response Teams (BDRT) and Divisional Disaster Response Teams (DDRT) are available at national, district and divisional levels. SLRCS is supported by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Sri Lanka Office in this operation, especially in providing the technical support and launching of the DREF.	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL), Tri-forces (Sri Lanka Army, Air-force, Navy), Sri Lanka Police, Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA), Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development (MFARD), Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development (DFARD), National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency (NARA), UNDP, WFP, UNEP, OCHA, Centre for environmental Justice (CEJ) international non-government organizations (INGO), and other civil society organizations.	

Summary of major revisions

Extension of time frame (no-cost extension): *Scaling up beach cleaning activities requires more time for the operation as the process is labour intensive and time-consuming. The COVID-19 restrictions in the country and detection of positive cases at SLRCS Headquarters (HQ) resulted in delays in the planned operation implementation. Hence, the operation is extended for two months to complete planned activities.*

Changes to the operation strategy: *The major changes include scaling up beach cleaning activities in Gampaha and Puttlam districts by deploying 180 additional volunteers (10,250 additional volunteers' days), with three additional trainings. This change is proposed because the military has withdrawn from beach cleaning, and MEPA has requested SLRCS for scaling up because many locations have to be cleaned, particularly in Gampaha and Puttlam districts with a higher concentration of plastic pellets and debris than in other districts. Planned donations of special Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kits to the military will not occur as they are no longer engaged in the operation. Instead, these kits will be reallocated to additional SLRCS volunteers who will be involved in cleaning the beach. Furthermore, planned work to establish oil spill barriers will not be implemented under this operation as MEPA has allocated resources and equipment for this.*

A threat of large-scale oil spills has not been detected thus far. However, experts believe possible oil spills may happen in the future, and MEPA has an oil spill contingency plan to deal with the potential threat. Although the total number of families aimed to reach through multipurpose cash grants remain the same (3,000 families), the target in Gampaha district will be increased up to 2,500 families (initial target 2,000 families) while reduced down to 500 families for Colombo district (initial target 1,000 families). The assessments and stakeholder consultations revealed that economic impact is higher in Gampaha than other districts, hence the increased target for cash support.

There is roughly about CHF 50,000 savings mainly from the following lines of the original budget:

- Procurements (special PPE kits, goggles, boots, gloves-industrial, and cleaning tools).
- Oil spill barriers.

¹ CHF=Swiss franc

- *International surge deployment.*
- *Few other budget lines with a small savings.*

The following budget lines have been increased to meet the new demand considering the changes described above under operation strategy:

- *Cost of volunteer deployment.*
- *Increase in media/communication/visibility.*
- *Increase in project staff cost to match with the timeframe extension.*

However, the total operational budget remains the same.

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

20 May 2021: Cargo ship “X-PRESS PEARL with 1,486 containers on board carrying dangerous cargo caught fire about nine nautical miles (16 km) off the coast of Colombo commercial shipping harbor.

20 - 30 May 2021: The fire continued to burn till end of May and number of small explosions were heard from the container ship during the fire. Sri Lanka Navy, Airforce, Coast Guard supported by the Indian Navy worked around the clock to contain the fire for nearly two weeks. The firefighting was made difficult and complicated by the southwest monsoon.

25 May 2021: Sri Lanka Navy rescued all 25 crew members and were evacuated safely from the vessel. By late afternoon damaged containers were dropping off the vessel into the sea. MEPA declared Tier 2 oil spill event while Indian Navy deployed firefighting vessel to help Sri Lankan Navy to contain the fire.

31 May 2021: Fire was largely contained, and water spraying continued to prepare the deck for the inspection for salvage crew to board the ship to assess the conditions to tow the ship to deep sea.

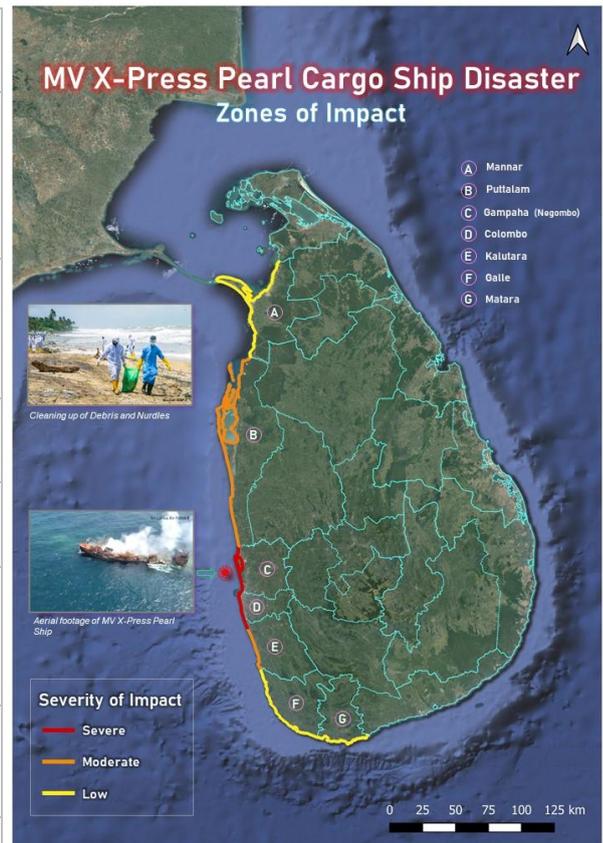
1 June 2021: Marine salvage team was able to board the ship for investigations and found that the engine room was flooded and smoke was still coming out from some sections of the vessel.

2 June 2021: Towing the ship to deep sea was abandoned despite successful attempt by the marine salvage team to attach a tow wire to the ship. It was later reported that the container ship had sunk and number of damaged and undamaged containers were found scattered around the shipwreck.

3 June 2021: SLRCS requested IFRC for DREF support to respond to the emergency and assist 3,000 fisher families in the worst affected districts of Colombo and Gampaha with Multipurpose Cash grants as well as to assist beach cleaning efforts in six districts.

13 June 2021: IFRC allocated CHF 481,250 to assist 3,000 families with Livelihoods and basic needs and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) interventions - engage in environmental sanitation work through beach cleaning

16-30 June 2021: A four-member expert team was deployed by the UNEP/OCHA Joint Environment Unit including two oil/chemical and marine litter experts. The experts were mobilised through the European Commission’s Directorate General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations/Emergency Response Coordination Centre (DG ECHO/ERCC).



Map created by: [GeoDelta Labs](#)

The fire onboard and subsequent sinking of the ship caused massive damage to the marine environment and ecosystem, as well as unprecedented impact on the livelihoods of fisher communities, resulting in economic losses as fishing exports were severely affected. Subsequent investigations by the authorities revealed that the cargo ship was carrying hazardous chemicals, including nitric acid, ethanol, lead ingots, dust urea, frilled urea, high density and low-density polyethylene (46 containers), epoxy resins (349 containers), sodium methoxide, caustic soda (42 containers), aluminum processing byproducts, raw materials for cosmetics, food items and general cargo. The ship also had 300 tonnes of bunker oil. With the sinking of the ship, the release of the chemicals was a serious risk to the ocean and the coastal ecosystem.

The fire caused spillage of damaged containers, microplastics, an estimated over three billion tiny plastic pellets, chemicals, and other harmful toxic substances into the sea. The flotsam was spread across vast areas on the western side of the coastline affecting the districts of Colombo, Gampaha, Puttalam, Kalutara, Galle, and Matara. Chemical spills and plastic pellets have caused massive damage to the coastline, natural marine environment, and ecosystem, including

in several popular tourist areas and resorts. Beaches were thickly coated with plastic pellets; microplastics and oil slicks were also visible in the water.

Fishing was banned along roughly 80km of the affected coastline, mainly in Gampaha, Colombo and Kalutara districts at the initial stages of the disaster. According to DFARD, 16,726 fisher families have lost their income. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Fisheries stated that the total value of the losses in the fisheries sector remains about LKR 77,877,000 (USD 390,000) per day. The losses include damage to livelihoods, aquaculture sites, tourist sites, as well as cleaning costs of fishing sites, and seabed assessment and remediations. Reduced seafood consumption in both local and international markets have severely impacted the sector, and funds are needed to take remedial actions.

According to MEPA, the release of plastic pellets continues to take place from damaged containers with large stock of pellets still under water. A [Nurdle Tracker](#) developed by [Oceanswell - Marine Conservation Research and Education Organisation](#) shows that in addition to the severely affected western coastline, plastic nurdles have been found in the southern, Northern and eastern coastlines as well.

Summary of current response

Overview of Host National Society

- Out of SLRCS pool of 25 trained Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) persons, two were deployed to set up and assist implementation of the Multi-Purpose Cash (MPC) transfer programme in Gampaha and Colombo districts.
- Due to the lockdown situation and considering the nature of the disaster, SLRCS response was limited initially to donating PPE kits to MEPA and two boat engines to NARA. Although plastic pellets are not harmful to touch, experts believe toxic chemical substances were washed ashore together with plastic pellets and other debris. Hence, only military and trained personnel were deployed for beach cleaning and debris removal at the initial stages of the operation.
- SLRCS organized a series of stakeholder consultation meetings with MEPA, MFARD, DFARD, NARA and an active SLRCS member who is a Marine Biologist and has served at NARA previously. The objective of the meetings was to understand the humanitarian consequences of the disaster and augment response in collaboration with these agencies to minimize the sufferings of the affected communities and help restore the marine environment. MEPA welcomed the volunteer support for cleanup operations and assisted SLRCS with training.
- At least two national-level coordination meetings were held with SLRCS HQ staff, senior officials of MFARD, DFARD, as well as their field office staff members in Colombo and Gampaha districts. The objectives of the meetings were to discuss and agree on the beneficiary selection process, methodologies, identification of most vulnerable Livelihoods groups and modalities of assistance.
- SLRCS HQ closely worked with MEPA to organize specialized trainings for staff and volunteers of all affected districts on the beach cleaning process. The key training topics include:
 - the importance of marine and coastal environment,
 - impacts of the MV X-press Pearl accident chemical spill,-
 - Plastic pellets and their impact,
 - shoreline types and different shoreline cleanup methods,
 - shoreline clean up organization-team work,
 - hazard and safety management- PPE requirement and introduction PPE,
 - waste collection and waste storage and transportation methods,
 - manual and mechanical cleanup methods.
- An international Chemical, Biological, Radiological and/or Nuclear (CBRN) surge expert was deployed remotely and provided technical support to SLRCS to develop a risk communication strategy and key messages for RCCE activities as well as provided guidance to the SLRCS HQ team during the mission.
- SLRCS established a partnership with UNDP Maritime Disaster Assistance Project to support 100 families with livelihoods assistance in Negombo lagoon area through cash for work assistance to and to scale up cleaning activities together with MEPA particularly focusing on Negombo lagoon. This intervention includes Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) and Livelihoods Assessment as well.
- SLRCS organized a meeting with CEJ, UNDP, MEPA, DFARD and NARA to plan and develop risk communication materials such as posters, leaflets and to discuss Covid-safe approaches for community engagement given the COVID-19 restrictions.

- Procurement of special PPE kits, COVID-19 protective gear-PPE, masks, sanitizers as well as beach cleaning tools such as shovels, wheelbarrows, boots, gloves is completed.

SLRCS response in six districts as a part of ongoing DREF operation since 3 June 2021

District	Response
Colombo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of people served for Multipurpose Cash grants was finalized during the first month and cash transfer process is in progress.
Gampaha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MEPA conducted special training for SLRCS staff and volunteers on handling toxic materials and techniques of the beach cleaning process. • Branch conducted 27 beach cleaning activities thus far deploying approximately 1,350 volunteers • Selection of recipients for Cash Voucher Assistance was finalized during the first month. Cash grants for over 2,000 families have been finalized and families are currently receiving funds to their accounts. • In addition to daily coordination with authorities, at least three district-level stakeholder meetings were conducted to coordinate the operation with the Department of Fisheries, MEPA, NARA, government District and Divisional secretariat authorities, UNDP, WFP to discuss the selection of people served for cash grants.
Puttalam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MEPA conducted special training for SLRCS staff and volunteers on dealing with toxic materials and techniques of the beach cleaning process. • Branch conducted 19 beach cleaning activities thus far deploying approximately 475 volunteers.
Galle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MEPA conducted special training for SLRCS staff and volunteers on dealing with toxic materials and techniques of the beach cleaning process. • Beach cleaning activities are delayed as COVID-19 patients were found at MEPA district office in Galle.
Kalutara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MEPA conducted special training for SLRCS staff and volunteers on dealing with toxic materials and techniques of the beach cleaning process. • Branch conducted 18 beach cleaning activities thus far deploying approximately 450 volunteers
Matara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MEPA conducted special training for SLRCS staff and volunteers on dealing with toxic materials and techniques of the beach cleaning process. • Branch conducted 15 beach cleaning activities thus far deploying approximately 375 volunteers

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Actions in country

SLRCS has a longstanding working collaboration with the IFRC and the ICRC in implementing various programmes. During the disaster, the IFRC Country Office with the assistance of the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) Delhi and ICRC have been working together in close coordination to provide technical support to SLRCS and shared information at regional and sub-regional levels. Movement coordination meetings involving SLRCS, IFRC and ICRC are regularly organized.

IFRC is providing technical support to SLRCS including developing the Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) for the DREF request and coordinating with SLRCS for information sharing with the Movement and external partners. The IFRC CCD in Delhi and the Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) provided further coordination support for information sharing and resources.



Beach cleaning activities in Negombo (Photo: SLRCS)

Overview of non-RCRC actors' actions in country

Sri Lanka Army, Sri Lanka Navy, Sri Lanka Air Force and Department of Coastal Guards, Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources worked as the prime workforce in the coastal cleanup operation with the guidance of NARA, MEPA and other governmental and non-governmental organizations. MEPA has developed a National Oil spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP) for potential future oil spills. MEPA activated the NOSCP and managed the incident as it continues to unfold in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Armed Forces, relevant technical agencies of the government, local authorities and other key stakeholders. MEPA also deployed assets and personnel to set up barriers around the immediate vicinity of the ship, lagoon entrances as well as other identified locations along the beach.

Since this disaster has direct and indirect impacts on marine and aquatic resources, NARA has taken immediate actions to investigate the situation and assess the environmental damage caused by the series of fire incidents. In-situ water quality parameters were measured at the point of sample collection and further laboratory analysis were carried out. However, the outcomes of these investigations have not yet been published. In addition to GoSL initiatives described below, UNEP is currently planning to commission an Environmental Impact Assessment.

Responding to the requests made by GoSL for expert technical support, UNEP/ OCHA deployed a four-member expert team to advise the Government of Sri Lanka primarily on: 1. Designing and implementing an environmental impact assessment; 2. preventing, mitigating and responding to risks from the incident; 3. Strengthening national capacities to

deal with future maritime disasters.

Under the overall chairmanship of the Minister of Justice, MEPA coordinates the work of 11 experts subcommittees that have been established to assess the losses and damages focusing on the following areas: 1. Root Cause, Oil, Chemical and damage 2 Environmental Impact Assessment, 3. Biodiversity Impact Assessment, 4. Socio-economic Impacts, 5. Health Impacts, 6. Air quality Impacts, 7. Impacts on Aquatic Resources, 8. Water and seashore impacts, 9. Waste Management, 10. Restoration Assessment, 11. Economic Valuation. The findings of these expert committees will be used primarily to claim compensation from the Insurance and the shipping companies under the supervision of Attorney General's office.

Details of WHO does WHAT and WHERE by stakeholders involved in the response are given below:

Agency	Funded by	Description of response	Stakeholders involved in the response
DFARD	MFARD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LKR 420 million has been allocated by the MFARD, for compensation for affected fisher communities Selection of the eligible beneficiaries is ongoing. Compensation payments range between 15,000-80,000 per family depending on the income loss Geographical coverage: Negombo, Colombo, Kalutara 	DoF district officials, District Secretariat, Divisional Secretariat, Fishing associations
MEPA and NARA	UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of tools, equipment, PPEs and testing equipment for MEPA and NARA Risk communication and community engagement Geographical coverage: Negombo/Gampaha, Colombo, Kalutara 	DoF, MoF, MEPA, NARA, SLRCS, WFP, FAO, DoF district officials, District Secretariat, Divisional Secretariat, Fishing associations
TBD	UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioning of socio-economic impact study to assess and quantify the economic losses, social impacts and to propose maritime disaster preparedness, response and recovery framework. 	MFARD, MEPA, NARA
CEJ	UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen government institutions to improve risk communications, advocacy and outreach activities Support government institutions to mitigate the impacts of the disaster and build capacity for preparedness Improve the communication of science-based information on maritime disasters Promote community action and initiatives for post-disaster recovery and building back better 	UNDP, SLRCS, MEPA, NARA, DFARD
SLRCS	IFRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of LKR 15,000 Cash grant to 3000 affected families Engage with MEPA on the beach cleaning activities Provision of tools, PPEs and tools to SLRCS branches, and MEPA Geographical coverage: Gampaha/Negombo, Colombo, Kalutara, Puttlam, Kalutara, Galle and Matara 	DoF, MoF, MEPA, Military, DoF district officials, Divisional Secretariat, Fishing associations, UNDP, WFP, NARA
SLRCS	UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Livelihood assessment in Negombo Lagoon area Livelihoods assistance to 100 families through cash for work in Negombo lagoon area RCCE in the targeted communities 	UNDP, MEPA, NARA, DFARD, CEJ, WFP, Local authorities
DFARD	WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Security & Livelihoods Assessment Food security assistance to affected communities Geographical coverage: DS divisions of Negombo, Wattala, Ja-Ela and Kandan 	DoF, MoF, DoF district officials, Divisional Secretariat, Fishing associations, FAO, UNDP, WFP, NARA, SLRCS
MEPA	Ministry of Coast Conservation & Low-Lying Lands Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leading the beach cleaning operation Monitoring the spilling of hazardous material from the ship Preparing to prevent or minimise the damages from chemical, oil and plastic spills Coordination with government and UN agencies, donors for technical and financial assistance Working with Attorney General office on the litigation process 	NARA, Military, Indian Coast guard, UNDP, UNEP, OCHA, SLRCS, MoF, Donor agencies, Sri Lanka Port Authority, Coast Ministry of Justice, conservation department, Central Environment Authority, International Maritime Organisation, Directorate of Merchant Shipping
NARA	MFARD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Socioeconomic impact assessments Assess the environmental impacts of the disaster Assess the impact on marine organisms and water quality 	DoF, MEPA, UNDP, WFP, FAO, SLRCS

Needs analysis and scenario planning

Needs analysis

Although multi-day large fishing vessels were allowed to leave the coast for fishing in the deep seas, small scale fishers who fish on a day-to-day basis in the affected area lost their livelihoods as small scale fishing was banned by the authorities first due to bad weather conditions and then due to ship fire disaster. Fishing was initially banned along an 80-kilometre stretch along the western coast adjacent to the disaster location. The area subject to the fishing ban was subsequently reduced including fishing in Negombo Lagoon.

The fishing ban continues as the sea scan survey conducted by NARA and the Indian Navy has identified the existence of large debris in the areas shown on the map, which possess a serious threat to fishermen. The government has officially informed that as long as large debris remains in the areas, the fishing ban will have to be continued. The map shows the current no fishing zone declared by the GoSL.

There was a need to provide compensation and support to fisher communities to recover from the impacts particularly to the small scale fishers who have lost their livelihoods for a few months. It is important to note that small scale vendors whose livelihoods depend upon the general public who visit the beaches, have also lost their income and the COVID19 lockdown measures have made it even more difficult to support their families and meet their basic household needs.

Furthermore, fish consumption in Sri Lanka went down during the first few months after the media broadcasted the news of chemical spills and when people saw the dead marine species on the TV. This also had a considerable negative effect on the fishing community. It is also important to factor in the long term impacts and needs of the fishing community due to the potential oil spill scenario.

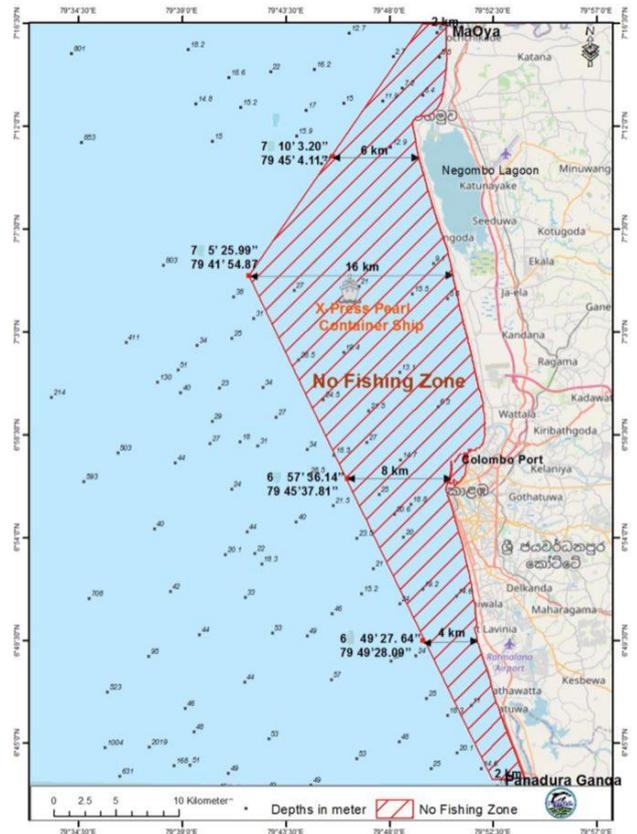
The communities demanded that fishers also receive whatever compensation and insurance payment paid by the shipping company, or any other companies. MFARD worked together with Attorney General's Office to take legal action to get compensation from the shipping company and received the first claim. However, the distribution of compensation to eligible recipients will take time to complete. Hence there was a need to provide immediate assistance such as food aid and cash assistance to meet the basic needs of fishing families at least for the entire period that they are banned from fishing.

Changes in the needs for beach clean up operation:

It is estimated that over 3 billion tiny plastic pellets and other debris from the ship have spread across an 80 km stretch of the beaches on the western coast and even beyond. As a result of exposure to heavy rain, plastic pellets have submerged into the sand. A massive mobilization of human resources is still needed to clean the beaches and remove debris. Furthermore, as the plastic pellets are mixed with toxic substances, the general public is not allowed to visit beaches and touch the debris on the coast. The cleaning personnel were provided with protective gear such as special PPE kits² and equipped with necessary tools such as shovels, wheelbarrows, boots, goggles and small machinery for the cleaning efforts. At the initial stages of the operation, GoSL mobilized military personnel to undertake beach clean up operations under the technical guidance of MEPA. However after few weeks, GoSL withdrew the military from the cleanup operation, hence there is a need for SLRCS to scale up beach cleaning activities in close coordination with MEPA. Ground-level observations and assessments results show that large amounts of pellets and other debris are found in Gampaha, Puttlam and Colombo districts including locations where accessibility is difficult – such as mangroves and lagoon areas. The revised operation will scale up beach cleaning and cleaning of mangroves and lagoon sites in these districts.

There is a high concentration of plastic pellets and other debris in Gampaha and Puttlam districts compared to others.

² Impermeable (Air sealed & Leak Proof), Disposable single use, Non Woven, Spunbond Meltblown Spunbond (SMS) fabric with lamination, Elastic waistband for dynamic fitting, Taped seams for optimal protection and good visibility. Meets or exceeds ASTM F1670 class3 exposure pressure (ASTM F1670 is equivalent to ISO16603)



Source: MFARD

Hence, there is a need for additional trained personnel and volunteers in Gampaha and Puttlam districts to deal with the toxic mixed materials as the whole cleaning process is labour intensive. The additional training will be provided by MEPA while helping to identify clean up sites. There is also a need for additional special PPE kits for volunteers, tools to minimize the risk of contact with toxic materials. According to the experiences of volunteers, working on the beach wearing the same PPE is very difficult and hence there is a need to change the PPE every 2-3 hours depending on the conditions of that particular cleaning site.

Currently, beach cleaning activities are ongoing in Gampaha, Puttlam and Colombo districts. Small scale cleaning activities are happening in the beaches of other districts (Kalutara, Galle & Matara) as there are less quantities of plastic pellets and debris compared to Colombo, Puttlam and Gampaha. Although manual labour is the prime workforce for cleaning up activities, some machinery such as light earthmoving equipment and transport vehicles are needed to help move piled up debris from the beaches in selected safe locations.

The threat of a large scale oil spill is not detected from the ship thus far. However, experts predict possible oil spills may happen in the future. Since MEPA has already deployed assets to counter the oil spill, MEPA requested SLRCS to support and scale up the beach and mangrove clean-up activities. Hence, the revised operation will not include procurement of oil spill barriers which was planned in the initial response.

Given the complexity of the operation and current COVID-19, it is challenging to deploy SLRCS volunteers to conduct emergency community-level needs assessment. Hence at the initial stages of the operation, SLRCS conducted stakeholder consultations at district and national levels to collect information related to needs and affected coastal communities due to this disaster. The Disaster Management Centre is not involved in this operation as the coordinating lead agency. The main focus of the scientific and research institutions such as MEPA and NARA who lead this operation is to protect the marine environment and address other long term consequences to the biodiversity along the coast. There is less focus on the short, medium and long term humanitarian consequences of the disaster hence SLRCS has an important role to play to support the most vulnerable to meet their immediate basic needs as well as to ensure their voices are heard at decision-making platforms at national levels.

Targeting

Considering the humanitarian consequences of the ship fire and potential oil spill scenario, livelihoods of small scale fishers have been severely affected, the revised operation aims to target 3,000 small scale fishing families in the worst affected Colombo and Gampaha districts whose livelihoods have been severely affected. Based on needs assessments, 2,500 families will be targeted in Gampaha district while 500 families will be targeted in Colombo districts with multipurpose cash grants. Furthermore, as the government has requested support from SLRCS to scale up beach cleanup operation in Gampaha, Puttlam and Colombo districts, the revised operation also aims to deploy additional trained volunteers.

Around 350 SLRCS volunteers will also be trained in dealing with toxic materials with expert guidance from MEPA and NARA. Details of volunteers trained per branch are given below in Table 2.1. Once trained, the volunteers will be deployed to assist authorities in the cleanup operations. PPE will be provided for SLRCS volunteers, MEPA officers engage in beach cleaning activities. It was planned to provide special PPE kits and gloves to the military in the originally planned operation. Since the military withdrew from the cleaning up activities while procurement is ongoing, the revised operation will distribute these PPEs to SLRCS volunteers who continue to engage in the beach clean up activities.

Table 1: Initial targets for the operation

Interventions	Quantity	Target in Colombo	Target in Gampaha	Other affected districts (Puttalam, Kalutara, Galle, Matara)
CVA	3,000 HH	1,000 HH	2000 HH	N/A
Tools: Shovels, boots, Goggles	300	100	150	50
Wheelbarrows	50	10	20	20
Training of 50 volunteers per branch	6 trainings	1 training	1 training	4 trainings per branch

Table 1.1: Revised targets

Interventions	Quantity	Target in Colombo	Target in Gampaha	Other affected districts: Kalutara, Galle, Matara	Target in Puttlam
CVA	3,000 HH	500 HH	2,500 HH	N/A	N/A
Tools: Shovels, boots, Goggles	600	100	350	39 (13 per branch)	111
Wheelbarrows	100	10	50	15 (5 per branch)	25
Training of 50 volunteers per branch	9 trainings	1 training	3 trainings	3 trainings	2 training

Table 2: Initial distribution plan- PPE / Gloves support for Volunteers and Other stake holders

Branch	No of working days	No of Volunteers - SLRCS	No of Staff SLRCS	MEPA	Sri Lanka Army/Nany	Total	Quantity - PPE	Gloves
Gampaha	36	50	6	5	100	161	5,796	5,796
Colombo	36	50	6	5	100	161	5,796	5,796
Kalutara	25	25	3	2	50	80	2,000	2,000
Puttlam	25	25	3	2	50	80	2,000	2,000
Galle	25	25	3	2	50	80	2,000	2,000
Matara	25	25	3	2	50	80	2,000	2,000
Total	172	200	24	18	400	642	19,592	19,592

Table 2.1: Revised distribution plan for PPE / Gloves support for Volunteers and Other stake holders

Branch	No of working days	No of Volunteers - SLRCS	No of Staff SLRCS	MEPA	Total	Quantity - PPE	Gloves
Gampaha	60	175	6	5	186	11,160	11,160
Colombo	36	50	6	5	61	2,196	2,196
Kalutara	25	25	3	2	30	750	750
Puttlam	50	80	3	2	85	4,250	4,250
Galle	25	25	3	3	31	775	775
Matara	25	25	3	2	30	750	750
Total	221	380	24	19	423	19,881	19,881

Table 3: Initial volunteer deployment plan for Beach Cleaning

Branch	No of working days	No of Volunteers - SLRCS	Total Volunteers Days
Gampaha	36	50	1,800
Colombo	36	50	1,800
Kalutara	25	25	625
Puttlam	25	25	625
Galle	25	25	625
Matara	25	25	625
Total		200	6,100

Table 3.1: Revised volunteer deployment plan for Beach Cleaning

Branch	No of working days	No of Volunteers - SLRCS	Total Volunteers Days
Gampaha	60	175	10,500
Colombo	36	50	1,800
Kalutara	25	25	625
Puttlam	50	80	4,000
Galle	25	25	625
Matara	25	25	625
Total		380	18,175

Table 4: Volunteer deployment - assessment cash grant/ PDM

Branch	No of working days - Assessment	No of working days - PDM	Total working days	No of Volunteers	Staff	Total no of persons	Total PPE
Gampaha	15	15	30	30	4	34	1,020
Colombo	10	10	20	20	4	24	480
Total				50	8	58	1,500

Scenario planning

Scenario	Humanitarian consequence	Potential Response
Worst case scenario	Over 3.5 months have passed since the fire started and Sri Lanka has already experienced the worst impacts of this disaster. Although the loss of income of fisher communities may be assessed and quantified in monetary terms, damage to the marine environment including marine biology is unimaginable and irreversible, however much investment has been made to rectify the situation. It might not be able to assess the ecological damage in monetary terms as well. However, Investigations to assess the damage are ongoing focusing on preparing evidence for the insurance claim for compensations. We are currently facing the worst-case scenario and the revised operation will contribute to the efforts by GoSL and other agencies to cope and recover from the disaster.	The revised DREF operation aims to complement the government effort and assist the most vulnerable members of the fishing community in the worst affected districts of Colombo and Gampaha with multipurpose cash grants as well as to engage in the beach cleanup operations in close coordination with respective government agencies.

COVID-19 safe operation

The targeted areas for this operation are the western coastal districts of Colombo, Gampaha in the western province have reported the highest number of cases. To ensure the operation is COVID-19 safe, IFRC and SLRCS staff and volunteers in the field will be provided personal protective equipment and community sensitization and awareness in the context of COVID-19 prevention. All activities will be conducted under the COVID-19 guidelines. For further information on COVID-19 operation in Sri Lanka, please refer to [IFRC GO](#) platform.

Risk Assessment

A detailed assessment was carried out in affected areas to select the target beneficiaries. It is made mandatory to ensure volunteers are insured prior to deployment therefore they are provided with trainings, necessary protective gear such as sanitizers and masks in order to prevent the lives of the RCRC volunteers at risk. With the prevailing COVID-19 situations there is a risk for community transmission at the field level. These volunteers are already trained on how to work according to COVID 19 guidelines to assure the safety of both volunteers and community members. Further training was provided to volunteers on dealing with toxic substances in the cleanup operations and closer guidance was provided with expert technical support from the scientific institutions that are leading the operation on the ground.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Overall Objective

The revised operation aims to assist 15,000 people (3000) families from the small scale fishing communities in the two worst affected districts of Colombo (500 families), Gampaha (2500 families) with LKR 15,000 multipurpose cash grants to meet their basic needs as well as to support the authorities on the cleanup activities in six districts. The revised operation will deploy 380 volunteers in six districts with a total of 18,175 volunteer days spanning over six months. Provision of special PPE Kits, tools (e.g. shovels, wheelbarrows, boots, and goggles) will be included in the revised operation.

Proposed Strategy

Recipient selection was carried out in the two targeted districts for multipurpose cash grants involving the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, local authorities and affected community members. The proposed strategy is formulated based on the short-term basic needs of the affected people and aligned with the government's marine environment protection strategy. The main focus was on providing support to 3000 families in Colombo and Gampaha districts with multipurpose cash grants to address the basic needs. The operation includes the provision of protective gear such as PPEs, working tools such as shovels, wheelbarrows, goggles, boots as well as the hiring of machinery for the cleanup operations.

Regular coordination meetings are being conducted with the participation of DFARD, MFARD, UNDP and WFP on the selection of geographical areas and recipients for cash grants to avoid duplication of effort as well as to ensure most vulnerable families receive assistance. Furthermore, these coordination meetings will be used as a platform to share information, knowledge and seek help from the authorities to resolve issues that might arise during the implementation.

Attention has been paid to knowledge management and developing communication products from the experience gained from this operation. Regular reviews and updates will be made available during and after the operation. Actions will be taken to document the lessons learned and experience from this operation and shared widely within and outside the Movement.

SLRCS is committed to working in line with SLRCS and IFRC policies, procedures, commitments and mandates to

ensure that programmes under this operation are aligned with our minimum standard commitments to protection, gender and inclusion in emergencies. Specific considerations were paid to the elderly, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, lactating women, women-headed households, migrants, quarantine people due to COVID-19 and households with infants or young children. Since these groups are more vulnerable to challenges related to access to nutrient-rich food, safe water and are more susceptible to diseases/infections.

Livelihood and basic needs- essential household assistance: 3,000 families

Considering the impacts due to the ship fire and the ban imposed by the authorities most of the small-scale fishermen in Colombo and Gampaha districts have become vulnerable and lost their income. Therefore, this operation is providing a cash grant of 15,000 LKR (CHF 45) per month considering the prolonged impact on their livelihoods. The standard criteria to determine cash grant is to provide 50 per cent of the average daily wage into 20 days which is LKR 15,000. BDRT's trained 50 volunteers will continue to conduct the assessment for the multipurpose cash grants programme (refer Table 4). During beneficiary selection, special attention was given to vulnerable categories including female/single-headed households, households with people with disabilities and elderly people. Consideration was given to families whose economic condition has worsened due to the COVID-19 lockdown situation.

WASH promotion:

According to the need analysis, about 3 billion tiny plastic pellets and other debris from the ship have spread across the beaches of Gampaha, Puttlam, Colombo, Kalutara, Galle and Matara. At the initial stages of the operation, military personnel conducted the beach cleaning activities. However, the military is no longer engaged in the clean-up operation and there is still a need for more human resources to clean the polluted areas. Understanding the importance of engaging in cleanup activities to minimize the impact of this environmental pollution, reducing the risk of fishing communities, SLRCS joined the authorities to carry out beach cleaning activities in affected areas. Special training has already been conducted for 250 volunteers in Gampaha, Puttlam, Kalutara, Galle and Matara and the training for 50 volunteers in Colombo branch has been delayed due to the high COVID-19 infection rate in Colombo and related curfew. Additional 155 volunteers (125 in Gampaha and 50 in Puttlam) will be trained under the revised operation due to greater need in beach cleaning activities in these 2 districts. It is a requirement by MEPA that volunteers should have the knowledge to deal with toxic mixed materials before deploying for beach cleaning up activities. All the necessary gears for cleaning were supplied by the operation including special PPE kits, SLRCS will continuously get support for conducting ground level activities from, relevant organizations including MEPA, Coastal Guard Department and Military officials.



Training Demonstration by MEPA and SLRCS staff (Photo: SLRCS)

Additional 155 volunteers will be deployed in Gampaha and Puttlam district under the revised operation as the concentration of plastic pellets are high in these districts as well as there are mangrove plantations, lagoons and marshlands in these two districts where plastic pellets were deposited which require labour-intensive methods of cleaning.

Table 5: Details of specialized training on beach cleaning for volunteers³

Branch	Number of volunteers to be deployed	Number of volunteers trained	Number of training
Gampaha	175	175	3
Colombo	50	50	1
Kalutara	25	50	1
Puttlam	80	80	2
Galle	25	50	1
Matara	25	50	1
Total	380	455	9

The National Society Capacity building: SLRCS is responsible for the overall coordination and implementation of the humanitarian response operation, supported by the IFRC and in-country Movement partners. SLRCS has well-established cooperation with lead agencies NARA, MEPA, Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Local Authorities, SLRCS Colombo and Gampaha branches have been working hand in hand with these agencies as all these agencies are located in the western province. However, training and skills development of staff and volunteers are needed to deal with these types of technological disasters such as chemical spills and oil spills. 350 volunteers will be trained from selected six branches to work at the field level.

Furthermore, the CBRN surge expert deployed provided technical support to SLRCS to develop a risk communication

³ 75 additional volunteers have been trained in Kalutara, Galle and Matara districts which will be higher than what is planned for deployment. Each training can accommodate 50 volunteers. Gampaha branch will conduct an additional training with their own funding for 25 volunteers

strategy and key messages for RCCE activities as well as guided the SLRCS team during the mission.

Implementing lessons learned from previous operations: Although SLRCS has implemented a number of response operations on natural and manmade disasters, there is limited experience in dealing with marine disasters. SLRCS will use the lessons learned from other operations to plan and implement the response activities. Most recent experiences, lessons learned and knowledge gathered from COVID19 response activities will be integrated in to this operation.

A Movement-wide approach: SLRCS is responsible for the overall coordination and implementation of the disaster response operation, supported by all components of the Movement. Considering the nature and scope of the response, IFRC will mobilize resources via this DREF on behalf of SLRCS, while coordinating with the ICRC at the same time. The latter has a long-time presence in Sri Lanka and will, among others, support restoring family links (RFL) interventions which – although included in this plan to reflect the totality of actions – are not factored in the budget. The budget for RFL interventions will be covered by ICRC outside of this DREF. Contributions of Partner National societies will be considered and coordinated in the overall approach.

Operational Support services

Human Resources

SLRCS allocated full-time staff at NHQ to oversee the operation and assign a finance staff to ensure a smooth flow of settlements. Furthermore, at the branch level to implement the program a District Project Officer and a Community Mobiliser per each branch is hired. IFRC supported program implementation via its existing staff. Mobilization of NDRT, BDRT and DDRT as well as staff expenses are covered in the operational budget. Additional volunteers will be recruited and deployed for beach cleaning.

Logistics and Supply Chain

Logistics activities aim to effectively manage the supply chain, including, procurement, customs clearance, fleet, storage and transport to distribution sites following the operation's requirements and aligned to IFRC's logistics standards, processes and procedures.

In line with the audit guidelines, IFRC conducted the procurement of items such as special PPE kits, masks, gloves, wheelbarrows, and shovels in close coordination with SLRCS ensuring efficient and timely delivery. With the proposed changes in this Operation Update, additional quantities of some of these items will be procured to meet new needs. The IFRC CO continues to provided logistics support to SLRCS to ensure transparency and accountability in the local procurement process. Additional logistics support will be made available by the Asia Pacific Regional Logistics Unit and CCD in Delhi, as per need. All items procured thus far have been approved by GHS&SCM⁴- APRO. A multipurpose cash grant of LKR15,000 is transferred to individual beneficiary accounts through the Sampath Bank which is a recognized commercial bank in Sri Lanka.

Information Technologies (IT)

High-speed Wi-Fi internet connectivity is available in IFRC Sri Lanka CO as well as in the NHQ of SLRCS. Staff members and volunteers in the field operation are supported by 3G modems and internet data packages for their smartphones which enable them communicating electronically with the headquarters and to send reports and pictures in quick time. Open Data Kit (ODK) based assessments was carried out electronically through mobile applications on digital tablets or mobile phones. An orientation session on digital assessments and data protection was provided to prepare the volunteers using the tablets or mobile phones for assessments. Given COVID19 restrictions, regular Zoom meetings are being conducted to coordinate with stakeholders and branches to share information and plan operational activities.

Communications

Throughout the operation, a regular flow of information is maintained between all stakeholders. SLRCS communications staff are working in close coordination with the IFRC regional communications team to ensure that the evolving humanitarian needs and the response of SLRCS. To maintain the transparency of the operation SLRCS will disseminate information via social media platforms and in the national and international media. A proactive approach will be taken to maintain media outreach and to produce communication materials including press releases, news stories, photos/video, key messages and infographics for external promotion by National Societies in their domestic markets. A Viber group has been created to share information and photos between volunteers, branches, NHQ and IFRC.

Security

SLRCS security framework will be applicable for SLRCS staff and volunteers. IFRC security framework will be applicable for IFRC and integrated PNSs staff. In case of need for deployment all IFRC staff must, and RC/RC staff and volunteers are encouraged, to complete the IFRC Stay Safe e-learning courses, i.e. Stay Safe Personal Security, Stay Safe Security Management and Stay Safe Volunteer Security online training. Staff and volunteers to be aware of the security status and briefed on reactions in an emergency. SLRCS and IFRC security focal points will continue to monitor the situation. Any security concerns will be handled with local authorities as per the existing security framework.

⁴ The Global Humanitarian Services and Supply Chain Management

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, & Reporting (PMER)

SLRCS will oversee and monitor all operational, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting aspects of the present operation in the flood-affected area through its country-wide network of branches and volunteers. IFRC, through its CO and CCD in Delhi, will provide technical support in programme management to ensure the operation's objectives are met.

Reporting on the operation will be carried out in accordance with the IFRC DREF minimum reporting standards. A final report within three months of the end of the operation.

A post-distribution monitoring on cash will be conducted, and at the end of the operation, a lesson learned workshop will be conducted to capture learning.

Administration and Finance

Operational expenses such as volunteer per-diem, accommodation, transportation, communication and coordination activities are factored in. Procurement will be done according to SLRCS procedures with IFRC technical support. Finance and administration support to the operation will be provided by SLRCS NHQ, with assistance from the finance team of the IFRC CO.

Crosscutting issues

Protection, Gender and Inclusion

Protection, gender and inclusion considerations will be mainstreamed in this operation. Among others, areas of focus will include the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and child protection. Mainstreaming of Protection, gender and inclusion will also ensure that accountability lines are in place for GBV prevention and response. SLRCS commits to capturing sex, age and disability disaggregated data to understand the number and specific vulnerability of females to males based on their gender roles and age (to understand if a higher proportion of women, boys, girls or men are made vulnerable)..

Community engagement and accountability (CEA)

Even with the COVID 19 restrictions, efforts were made to integrate community feedback mechanisms into the operation to ensure that affected populations have access to timely and accurate information on the nature and scope of services provided by SLRCS, expected behaviour of staff and volunteers and can share questions, suggestions, concerns and other feedback with SLRCS. Community engagement and accountability services will be implemented through context-specific channels, group discussions, face-to-face discussions and publishing of selected recipient lists. Movement-wide commitments and minimum actions for CEA will be mainstreamed into operations as much as possible.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

	Livelihoods and basic needs People reached: 6,022 (1200 HH) Male: N/A Female: N/A	
Outcome 1: Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer-term recovery through basic needs support.		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people targeted/reached support on basic needs and livelihoods	15,000	In progress
Output 1.1: Short term basic needs and livelihoods support assistance is provided to affected households		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# households provided with emergency cash grants	3,000	1,200
Progress towards outcomes		
Needs analysis There is a need to provide cash assistance and livelihood support to fisher communities who lost their income due to fishing ban and to recover from the disaster impacts. Small scale fishers are particularly affected and have lost their livelihoods for the few months. It is important to note that small scale vendors whose livelihoods depend upon the general public who visit the beaches, have also lost their income and the COVID19 lockdown measures have		

made it even more difficult to support their families and meet their basic household needs. Since their income has interrupted due to the disaster there is a need to stimulate local economy and restore dignity to population.

Population to be assisted:

Multipurpose Cash grant assistance of LKR 15,000 per family, will be given to 3,000 of the most affected families in Colombo (500 families) and Gampaha (2,500 families) districts.

Following activities are currently on going and /or being planned:

- Consult and agree with the selection criteria of target households, Fisher association, DFARD (through a participatory process).
- Select recipient households, prepare recipient lists and sensitize them on the assistance process.
- Provide cash transfers (CHF 69) through bank transfers.
- Undertake post-distribution monitoring.

Activities already carried out

- Needs assessment has been completed by deploying trained volunteers.
- Beneficiary selection has been completed in both districts in close coordination with Fishing Associations and DFARD.
- Branches have already processed over 2,500 beneficiary files and the rest is being processed at the SLRCS HQ.
- Over 1,200 families have already received cash grants to their accounts. The cash is transferred to beneficiary accounts from the SLRCS Sampath Bank account which is the Financial Service Provider.
- Following COVID19 safe guidelines, PPEs have been procured and provided to volunteers who conduct the field work.

Challenges

Due to the lockdown situation in the country (travel restrictions), it is challenging to conduct activities as planned. Most of the field locations are under quarantine regulations. Branches are coordinating with local authorities to carry out response work following COVID-19 safe response practices. All volunteers are provided with PPEs.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

People reached: 8,000

Male: N/A

Female: N/A

Outcome 1: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached by beach clean-up activities	15,000	In progress

Output 1.3: Adequate sanitation which meets Sphere standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to target population

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of beach clean-up days	Volunteer days: 18,275	2,650 volunteer days already deployed and the rest is in progress
# of people reached by beach cleaning activities	15,000	8000, and in progress

Progress towards outcomes

Needs analysis

Contaminated plastic pellets and debris mixed with toxic substances cause diseases and limited access to the beaches and hinder fishing activities. As a result of exposure to heavy rain, plastic pellets have submerged into the sand. A massive mobilization of human resources is needed to clean the beaches and remove debris. Furthermore, as the plastic pellets are mixed with toxic substances, the general public is not allowed to visit beaches and touch the debris on the coast

Populations to be assisted

- 455 volunteers will be selected and trained from 3,000 families targeted (15,000 people) for beach and lagoon cleaning activities. Out of 3,000 families targeted, currently, about 1,600 families (8,000 people) have been reached through beach cleaning activities.

Activities already carried out

- 250 volunteers were provided with specialized training to deal with toxic materials and techniques for beach cleaning in Gampaha, Puttlam, Kalutara, Galle and Matara districts.
- 79 beach cleaning events were already conducted by deploying 2,650 volunteer days in Gampaha, Puttlam, Kalutara, Galle and Matara districts This activity is still ongoing and trained volunteers make every effort to disseminate their knowledge on the following to communities living along the beaches:
 - The importance of marine and coastal environment,
 - Impacts of the MV X-press Pearl accident chemical spill impacts
 - Plastic pellets and their impact
 - Shoreline types and different shoreline cleanup methods
 - Shoreline clean up organization-team work
 - Hazard and safety management
 - Waste collection and waste storage
- Protective equipment and tools for beach cleaning have been procured



Beach cleaning carried out by trained SLRCS volunteers in Negombo, a worst affected area by the disaster. (Photo: SLRCS)

Challenges

Due to the lockdown situation in the country (travel restrictions), it is difficult and challenging to conduct activities as planned. Most of the field locations are under quarantine regulations. Branches are coordinating with local authorities to carry out response work following COVID-19 safe response practices. All beach cleaning volunteers are provided with special PPE kits and tools.



Protection, Gender and Inclusion

People reached: N/A

Male: N/A

Female: N/A

Outcome 1: Communities identify the needs of the most vulnerable and particularly disadvantaged and marginalized groups, as a result of inequality, discrimination and other non-respect of their human rights and address their distinct needs

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Does the operation demonstrate evidence of addressing the specific needs to ensure equitable access to disaster response services?</i>	Yes	Yes

Inclusion and Protection Output 1.1: NS programmes improve equitable access to basic services, considering different needs based on gender and other diversity factors

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Does the operation demonstrate evidence of NS programmes improve equitable access to basic services, considering different needs based on gender and other diversity factors?</i>	Yes	Yes

Progress towards outcomes

Needs analysis

The operation will ensure the promotion and participation of men and women of different age groups through orientation and consultation. While the household needs assessment will be conducted, sex, age, and disability Disaggregated data (SADDD) will be collected and analyzed. A continuous dialogue amongst different stakeholders will be continued to ensure programmes from all sectors mainstream cross cutting issues relevant to the needs and priorities of the affected population.

Population to be assisted

A total of 15000 people will be targeted and PGI aspect will be integrated through sectoral interventions such as Livelihoods and Basic Needs and WASH.

Activities already carried out

Following activities are ongoing:

- Orientation for staff and volunteers on the PGI minimum standards
- Collection and analysis of sex, age and disability disaggregated data
- Ensure community engagement and accountability through consultations (I.e. multi-sectoral community feedback mechanism, community engagement regarding selection criteria etc.)

Programme standards/benchmarks: This operation will meet the minimum standards for protection, gender and inclusion by ensuring that the following activities integrated with sectoral activities and budget as per IFRC minimum standards for protection, gender and inclusion in emergencies.

Challenges

Due to lockdown situation in the country (travel restrictions), it is difficult and challenging to conduct activities as planned. Most of the field locations under quarantine regulations. Branches are coordinating with local authorities to carry out response work following COVID-19 safe response practices. All volunteers are provided with PPEs.

Strengthen National Society

Outcome S1.1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of SLRCS branches that are well functioning	6	In progress

Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers insured	505	In progress

Progress towards outcomes

All activities are still ongoing. Due to the lockdown situation in the country (travel restrictions), it is difficult and challenging to conduct activities as planned. Most of the field locations are under quarantine regulations. Branches are coordinating with local authorities to carry out response work following COVID19 safe response practices.

For scaling up of beach cleaning activities in Gampaha and Puttlam districts, the target number of volunteers insured was increased. 50 volunteers are being deployed in Gampaha and Colombo districts to conduct assessments, beneficiary selection and field work related to multipurpose cash grants. 455 volunteers are given special trainings by MEPA and they are being deployed for beach cleaning, thus the total number of volunteers deployed for the operation is 505.

International Disaster Response

Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# NDRT deployed	3	4
Ratio of people reached by the IFRC disaster response operations to the people affected by these emergencies	minimum of 5%	In progress

Output S2.1.1: Effective response preparedness and NS surge capacity mechanism is maintained

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of surge deployed	1	1

Output S2.1.3: NS compliance with Principles and Rules for Humanitarian Assistance is improved

Indicators:	Target	Actual
% compliance with Principles and Rules for Humanitarian Assistance	100%	100%

Output S2.1.6: Coordinating role of the IFRC within the international humanitarian system is enhanced

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of coordination meetings with other stakeholders	10	5
Outcome S2.2: The complementarity and strengths of the Movement are enhanced		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Movement coordination is in place</i>	Yes	-
Output S2.2.1: In the context of large-scale emergencies the IFRC, ICRC and NS enhance their operational reach and effectiveness through new means of coordination.		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Involvement in regular coordination meetings.</i>	Yes	-
Progress towards outcomes		
All activities are still ongoing. Due to the lockdown situation in the country (travel restrictions), it is difficult and challenging to conduct activities as planned. Most of the field locations are under quarantine regulations. Branches are coordinating with local authorities to carry out response work following COVID19 safe response practices.		

Influence others as leading strategic partner		
Outcome S3.1: The IFRC secretariat, together with National Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels that affect the most vulnerable.		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>IFRC and NS are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues.</i>	Yes	Yes
Output S3.1.1: IFRC and NS are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i># of communications materials produced (social media, media articles, interviews, etc.)</i>	7	-
Output S3.1.2: IFRC produces high-quality research and evaluation that informs advocacy, resource mobilization and programming.		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i># of rapid and detailed assessment teams deployed at branch level</i>	6	6
Progress towards outcomes		
All activities are still ongoing. Due to the lockdown situation in the country (travel restrictions), it is difficult and challenging to conduct activities as planned. Most of the field locations under quarantine regulations. Branches are coordinating with local authorities to carry out response work following COVID19 safe response practices.		

Effective, credible and accountable IFRC		
Outcome S4.1: The IFRC enhances its effectiveness, credibility and accountability		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>IFRC enhances its effectiveness, credibility and accountability</i>	Yes	N/A
Output S4.1.3: Financial resources are safeguarded; quality financial and administrative support is provided contributing to efficient operations and ensuring effective use of assets; timely quality financial reporting to stakeholders		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>% of financial reporting respecting the IFRC procedures</i>	100%	N/A
Progress towards outcomes		
All activities are still ongoing. Due to the lockdown situation in the country (travel restrictions), it is difficult and challenging to conduct activities as planned. Most of the field locations under quarantine regulations. Branches are coordinating with local authorities to carry out response work following COVID19 safe response practices.		

D. Financial Report

Based on evolving situation, the lines of the original EPOA budget was aligned. Please see *the summary of major revisions*. The total operation budget is the same. A financial report will be issued in the next reporting, which is the final report of this DREF operation.

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

*all amounts in
Swiss Francs
(CHF)*

DREF OPERATION

MDRLK013 - SRI LANKA : CARGO SHIP
FIRE

22/9/2021

Budget by Resource

Budget Group	Budget
Medical & First Aid	124,999
Other Supplies & Services	29,962
Cash Disbursement	208,141
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	363,102
Distribution & Monitoring	3,238
Transport & Vehicles Costs	7,771
Logistics, Transport & Storage	11,008
National Society Staff	13,810
Volunteers	44,765
Personnel	58,575
Consultants	2,662
Consultants & Professional Fees	2,662
Workshops & Training	10,333
Workshops & Training	10,333
Travel	0
Information & Public Relations	4,047
Office Costs	1,110
Communications	999
Financial Charges	42
General Expenditure	6,198
DIRECT COSTS	451,878
INDIRECT COSTS	29,372
TOTAL BUDGET	481,250

Reference documents



Click here for:

- Previous Appeals and updates
- [Emergency Plan of Action \(EPoA\)](#)

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How we work

All IFRC 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 the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.