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Programme update no. 2 Bangladesh

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAABD001

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**This report covers the
period 1 July 2011 to
31 December 2011**

*Volunteers of American Red Cross
emergency response unit trying to fix
the VHF radio station set up for
cyclone early warning system in a
remote coastal community of
Bangladesh.
Photo: IFRC*



In brief

Programme outcome

Effective and timely service delivery and support to vulnerable and people in need in Bangladesh through a more strengthened and enabled National Society in accordance to the principles and mandates of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement. To achieve this outcome, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is supporting the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) to develop the capacity of the National Society as well as in implementation of various relief and response programmes, disaster preparedness and risk reduction, health and care interventions and development initiatives for most vulnerable people and communities.

Programme(s) summary

BDRCS/IFRC implement various relief, response, recovery and development programmes in Bangladesh in line with the annual plan of action and existing strategic plans of both the National Society and IFRC. During this reporting period, following programmes/projects were implemented in Bangladesh:

- *Disaster response and preparedness, community-based disaster risk reduction, earthquake preparedness, cyclone preparedness, climate change adaptation, community-based development initiatives, road safety, anaemia prevention, various trainings on public health in emergencies and community-based health and first aid, organisational development of the host National Society (constitution revision, human resource (HR) reform, volunteers and unit capacity development, etc.).*

The disaster management programme mainly focuses on increasing the community awareness on disaster hazards and improving the community's disaster response capacity. It also manages disaster response operations as and when required. During this reporting period, two response operations were launched, one disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) operation for flash floods-affected people in Cox's Bazar and an Emergency Appeal for the monsoon floods¹ that affected people in Satkhira and Jessore districts. A multi-year project for climate change adaptation has been initiated during this reporting period with the financial support from Canadian Red Cross. A recovery project for cyclone Aila-affected people has also been initiated during this period with support from the Hong Kong branch of the Red Cross Society of China. Another project that started from mid-2010 for further enhancing the existing cyclone preparedness programme (CPP) is continuing in the current period as well. This project (ECP) has done exemplary level of work in rehabilitating and restoring cyclone early warning equipment and system in the coastal region of Bangladesh. As cyclones occur frequently in Bangladesh and many people may lose their lives if they are not moved to safety before the landfall of a cyclone, this early warning radio network and CPP volunteers play a vital role in saving lives of thousands of people living in coastal areas.

The community development initiatives (CDI) programme is another milestone in BDRCS programmatic history with an integrated approach to address socio-economic vulnerability of targeted communities. Poverty reduction is on the focus with health, education and sanitation components going together. Activities are based on felt-needs of the communities identified through the household level baseline survey and try to meet those gaps and needs in a holistic way. This programme is currently ongoing in eight communities of four districts.

The BDRCS health programme currently consists of mainly two components – anaemia prevention and road safety. Anaemia prevention is implemented in two communities of Manikganj and Munshiganj districts. The road safety programme has expanded its intervening areas in the Dhaka-Chittagong highway, the most important highway of the country.

The organizational development (OD) programme focuses on activities to enhance the institutional capacity of BDRCS and bring about required structural changes so as to make it a well-functioning National Society. One of the key activities initiated in this direction is the revision of the existing constitution of BDRCS. The revision of the BDRCS legal base is progressing very well and is expected to be passed by the Parliament in the near future. Other priorities involve the reformation of the present HR policies and preparation of a four-year Strategic Plan. Both the activities are in the final stage and expected to be put in place soon.

Financial situation

The total budget for 2011 has been revised to CHF 2,148,592. Appeal coverage is 249 per cent. Expenditure during the reporting period is 78.6 per cent of the revised 2011 budget.

[Click here to go directly to the financial report.](#)

No. of people we have reached

Through various programmes, BDRCS will reach about 7.3 million people. While some people will benefit directly from different relief, response, recovery and development support provided to them in the aftermath of the disasters, thousands of others in several targeted communities will benefit from various awareness building, disaster preparedness, climate change adaptation, risk reduction, activities.

¹ For a detailed report on the Monsoon Floods emergency operation, please refer to the issued Operations Updates (MAABD009) at <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/11/MDRBD009OU2.pdf>.

Programme	People reached in 2010	People to be reached in 2011
Disaster Management	2,36,200	7,112,903
Health and Care	125,000	150,000
Organizational Development	2,200	40,000

Our partners

American Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, the Hong Kong branch of the Red Cross Society of China, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross/Finnish government, Japanese Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Taiwan Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross/Norwegian government and Swedish Red Cross through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). Besides ICRC and IFRC, BDRCS works with other bilateral and multi-lateral partners. BDRCS has around 40 partners from the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, United Nations agencies, community-based non-governmental organizations, government bodies including ministry of food and disaster management, ministry of health and family welfare, the British Department for International Development (DfID) and the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid department, amongst others.

On behalf of BDRCS, IFRC would like to thank all partners and contributors for their generous response and support to this appeal and Red Cross Red Crescent activities in Bangladesh.

Context

The overall security and political situation has remained relatively calm during the second half of the year as compared to the first half of 2011 when several *hartals* (*bandha*/strikes) were called by various political and religious parties/groups. In the beginning of this reporting period as well, a long *bandha* (strike) was called by the opposition party, BNP and its allies on 6-7 and 10-11 July, seriously disrupted normal life and movement of vehicles. Though the situation remains generally calm now, the security situation is still volatile and political tussle is even intense and bitter between the ruling and opposition parties.

A few small to medium level disasters occurred during this reporting period. Flash floods in Cox's Bazar district around the second to third week of July have affected nearly 25,000 people, and BDRCS/IFRC have provided immediate relief assistance. Furthermore, the continuous torrential rain in the months of July and August resulted in floods and raised water levels in many districts in south-west Bangladesh. It eventually developed into a major problem in the affected areas displacing several thousands of families from their homelands. Hence an Emergency Appeal² (MDRBD009) was launched seeking CHF 1,267,094 to support BDRCS to assist most affected 10,000 families (50,000 beneficiaries) for eight months in Cox's Bazar, Satkhira and Jessore districts.

Two big festivals of the Muslim world, Aid-ul-Fitr and Aid-ul-Adha, also fell in the last half of this year which impacted a bit to the ongoing programmes as activities were on hold during festival time and also activities slowed down during the month-long fasting period of Ramadan.

Though these small disasters, political and cultural events have impacted ongoing activities a little bit, programmes have moved ahead almost as planned. Development in the National Society front as well has been encouraging with constitution revision process moving in a right direction. The revised draft of the constitution has been unanimously accepted by the Ordinary General Meeting of the BDRCS on 3 October which can be considered a historic achievement in the constitution revision process. Also given the successful

² Please refer the Emergency Appeal – Monsoon Floods at <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/11/MDRBD009EA.pdf> for more details.

partnership meeting in June this year, increasing interest and support of donor societies in Bangladesh, preparation of the five-year Strategic Plan, initiating HR and constitution revision processes, the overall scenario is positive and favourable for programme implementation.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster management

Programme component	Outcome(s)
Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR)	Targeted high risk flood-prone communities are better able to mitigate, prepare for and respond to floods and other disasters.
Cyclone preparedness programme (CPP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Enhancement of Cyclone Preparedness Programme (ECPP)</i> 	Capacities of targeted vulnerable coastal communities to respond to cyclonic disasters are strengthened. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Radio communication network rehabilitated, early warning system enhanced and volunteers are better managed to ensure safety of people in the coastal areas of Bangladesh.</i>
Earthquake preparedness and response programme (EPRP)	Targeted high risk communities are better prepared to respond to earthquakes.
Emergency Response	The disaster response capacity of BDRCS is further strengthened.
Climate change adaptation	BDRCS and targeted communities are better prepared with appropriate knowledge and measures for reducing the potential risk to climate change.
Sidr Recovery Programme–Community-based Development Initiatives (CDI) <i>(The Community-based Development Initiatives- CDI is a community-based socio-economic development programme, under the overall framework of the Sidr recovery programme, being implemented with the Sidr emergency appeal leftover fund in 8 most vulnerable communities of 4 districts of Bangladesh. After the closing of Sidr emergency appeal, this new programme has been linked to the annual appeal, disaster management/Strategy 2020 point 1: Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.)</i>	Health, education and economic conditions of the targeted households are substantially improved, the overall socio-economic vulnerability of the targeted households is reduced and their resilience to future disasters as well increased further.

Achievements

Programme component 1.1: Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR)

Through the BDRCS/IFRC CBDRR initiative, community people have become more organized to undertake their own initiatives to enhance their resilience to hazards and other social problems. However, these community initiatives, i.e. developing seed bank, initiated by the community themselves need to be matured so that benefit of these initiatives sustain and continue to benefit community people in DRR/CCA. Continuous

facilitation, guidance and support are sought from BDRCS to help community people to be empowered or more independent in dealing with disaster impact. Accordingly, a follow-up plan prepared by BDRCS to continue technical and advisory support to the communities under the CBDRR programme.

In addition to CBDRR, the follow-up plan also includes the activities of cash grant support for some 140 households of three communities in Bagerhat which is a follow up activity from the participatory assessment of safe shelter awareness (PASSA) field testing programme. During the final evaluation of PASSA, the proposal had come out from the communities for external assistance (BDT 3,000 or CHF 34 per family) to repair/strengthen houses of some of the most vulnerable households.

Upon request from BDRCS, IFRC has mobilized some funding through Geneva under DRR Global Alliance programme to support BDRCS CBDRR and PASSA follow-up plan. The follow up plan includes:

❖ **Value addition to ongoing mitigation/adaptation community actions**

1. [Replacement of she-goat/sheep for most vulnerable households](#): Through a wider consultation in community disaster management committee (CDMC), 66 households were identified to replace their goat/sheep received earlier which died (of diseases/cold stroke, pneumonia, during delivery and dog's bite) in 12 communities. CDMC formed a project implementation committee including representation from the beneficiaries and then purchased the goats and sheep directly from the local market. Community-wise, the breakdown of distribution is mentioned in the table.

2. [Maintenance of bamboo bridge constructed under the programme at Purbabaoitara community in Sirajgonj](#): The CDMC with support and assistance from BDRCS has done repairing and renovation of the bamboo bridge constructed under the programme at Purbabaoitara community in Sirajgonj for six months. Through regular maintenance and repairing works, CDMC managed to keep the bridge functioning during the monsoon season. As people lost access to the market and everyday business with the town, the bridge was a great help for the community to continue transporting their goods and maintain communication links.

3. [Maintenance and upgrading of CDMC office at 10 communities](#): Financial support has been provided to all 14 communities as per their requirements to do minor repairing and small scale maintenance such as making two windows for ventilation, new fences to make the office stable, plinth raising with mud, etc.

S. N	Community	Community DREF
1.	Tarai	28,700
2.	Binamula	27,500
3.	Maguriapara	27,928
4.	Mohadan	20,022
5.	Tapuvelakopa	29,136
6.	Charvelakopa	32,003
7.	Dokkhin Siloi	15,855
8.	Moddho Siloi	15,685
9.	Lokkhipur	14,794
10.	Bohoria	13,975
11.	Dudhkhali	19,500
12.	Lokhonda	15,300
13.	Paikpara	17,500
14.	Baitara	17,200
Total BDT		295,098

❖ **Support to small scale mitigation/adaptation and livelihood interventions**



A woman from the earning income through tailoring work. She got the sewing machine from the project. **Photo:** IFRC.

1. [Small scale livelihood tools support to nine communities \(boat, fishing net, rickshaw, carpenter tools, meson tools, electrician equipment, handicrafts tools, etc.\)](#): Some beneficiaries have been identified during the review of VCA findings done earlier for providing assistance in the form of livelihood input either tools or capital. Accordingly a plan of action (PoA) for the implementation of

these small scale livelihood/mitigation activities has been developed. These activities will be conducted through the community disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) set up with community contributions and grants from IFRC. The IFRC grant has been sent to the CDMC bank account while mobilization of community contribution is in progress.

Apart from the possible intervention in livelihood and small scale mitigation, BDRCS has made a couple of monitoring visits to the households to see the impact of the support provided from the CBDRR programme. The monitoring visits have revealed that poor and marginalized households (barber, shoemaker, van driver, fisherman, small cottage industry and daily labour), with livelihood support, have made tangible impact in terms of sustaining daily income to afford their day-to-day expenses without depending on external help. Though these beneficiaries belong to the lowest strata that are often being excluded or ignored in the National Society, the present context of improved livelihood has made their voice heard in community development initiatives. Hence, BDRCS has enhanced its reputation and image in the field of community DRR actions.

2. [Distribution of vegetable seeds to 2,100 vulnerable families in 14 communities to improve their nutritional status and indirect livelihoods support \(200 families/community\)](#): High yield varieties of winter crops, i.e. bittergourd, bottlegourd, pumpkin and papaya have been distributed among 2,100 families of the 14 selected communities of all seven CBDRR districts. Varieties of crops were chosen considering the common crops pattern of the locality. Women were targeted for this vegetable seeds support as they grow in the kitchen garden. These winter crops support will enable poor households in meeting the nutrition needs in food intake and earnings to supplement income.
3. [Construction of bamboo bridge and approach road](#): The VCA has identified two places in two communities of Munshiganj where people need a bridge over a canal. During the monsoon, community people arranged a ferry to transport passengers and goods. However, during the rest of the year when the canal is not in use, people face hurdles in transportation of goods and communication. Assessment for construction of bridge is being done and the bridge construction was completed by the end of December.
4. [Sanitation and hygiene support for 500 families](#): According to the VCA analysis of the community to ensure better sanitation facilities, household latrine materials have been distributed among 455 households of five communities who were not under sanitation coverage earlier.
During the flood season, sanitation situation deteriorates causing health hazards like waterborne diseases mostly to women and children. Drinking water is contaminated during floods as it comes in contact with human solid waste. Also, people have to spend significant portion of their income in health care. With the support it is expected, people will be free from risk of health hazard caused by faecal contamination of water sources.
5. [Monthly community meeting on disaster preparedness, health and other social issues](#): Facilitated by the community organizers, CDMC and CDRT monthly meetings and courtyard discussions of the 120 micro groups in the 15 communities are being held on a regular basis. Through the discussions community people are receiving knowledge on health facilities, various diseases and coping with disaster, etc.

S.N	Community	No. of latrine sets provided
1	Tarai	100
2	Binamula	50
3	Maguria Para	80
4	Lokhonda	100
5	Dokkhin Siloi	125
Total		455

❖ **Cash grant support for some vulnerable households of PASSA field testing communities**

During the final evaluation of PASSA, the proposal had come out from the communities for external assistance (BDT 3,000 or CHF 34 per family) to repair/strengthen houses of some most vulnerable households. Hence, this cash grant support was supposed to be done from PASSA field testing fund. By the time BDRCS received the proposal with list of 140 households for cash grant support, the PASSA budget code was closed and the required fund had to be explored internally within the available committed budget of CBDRR follow up programme.

Cash grant support to repair/strengthen houses to better protect from rain, strong wind, cold and bad weather has been provided to 140 households of three communities in Bagerhat district. As per the process, BDRCS through its district unit in Bagerhat in association with community, a committee was formed in each of three communities to facilitate the field testing activities. They prepared a primary list of 140 households for the cash grant support.

The standard modalities of IFRC have been maintained for cash grant distribution. Beneficiaries were selected based on the set criteria and through door-to-door survey by the Red Crescent volunteers, which was then verified later by the BDRCS/IFRC headquarters team. Following the primary selection, registration of beneficiaries was done in a prescribed format. A beneficiary ID card with beneficiary profile with passport photo, plan for use of cash grant and a section of post distribution monitoring (to evaluate the impact of support) was prepared and distributed to beneficiaries. Beneficiaries were supported through the BDRCS Bagerhat unit to open individual account with the government enlisted bank(s) located nearby beneficiary villages to receive the amount directly from the BDRCS/IFRC headquarters. Post distribution monitoring in the field testing communities conducted in September 2011 shows that over 95 per cent of beneficiaries have utilized the funds received.

❖ **Creating a pool of VCA facilitators at BDRCS**

As per the prerequisite guideline in the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, VCA is the process undertaken in guiding the CBDRR programme. Consistent to this standard practice, BDRCS traditionally has been conducting VCA to facilitate identification and implementation of community DRR priority actions. Though VCAs done by BDRCS has created some staff and volunteers as a facilitator, their expertise could not be utilized to benefit other than the particular programme they are engaged with which led to project based pool. Recognizing the emerging need in ongoing CBDRR programmes within the National Society and demand from the external stakeholders including CDMP, Ministry of Food and Disaster Management (MoFDM), BDRCS is thinking to create a 'common resource pool of VCA facilitators' with proper training who will be available to conduct VCA for any future community based programmes.

Program component 1.2: Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP)

Enhancement of Cyclone Preparedness Programme (ECPP) has been implemented in Bangladesh with financial and technical support from American Red Cross since mid-2010. A number of activities like repairing of radio, training of volunteers, preparation of volunteer database, etc, are being carried out. One of the major achievements of the project is the development of a new CPP Information System (CPPIS). Though there was an existing CPP Information System (CPPIS) that was developed earlier for a few upazillas with the support of Save the Children USA, there was a clear need to make it wider, simpler and user-friendly. Hence, the existing system was reviewed by both IFRC and CPP, and the new CPPIS software was designed in a better way.

The content of the new CPPIS has been approved by CPP management. The demo presentation of the new CPPIS was made with the BDRCS and CPP leadership as well as with the Joint secretary of MoFDM before being finalized. The software is now ready for use and the web based application is in progress. This new CPPIS will serve the purpose of not only the CPP volunteer management but also address some administrative need. The CPPIS gives query based analysis of the volunteers' personal profile, training and equipment.

During the process of volunteer data collection, it was identified that 54 per cent of the CPP volunteers knew about the existence of volunteer bylaw but had never received a copy. On the other hand, the volunteers who were recruited over the last five years did not have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities since there has been no training during that period. To minimize this knowledge gap, the existing bylaws was

reviewed and updated with more information. A total of 20,000 copies have been printed and distributed among the CPP Volunteers.

Aiming to increase the computer operating skill of the CPP officers, a four-day training on basic IT and CPPIS was held from 8 to 11 September in Dhaka. It was residential training and total 22 officers from national headquarters to Upazilla levels attended the training. Through this training, the participant received basic computer knowledge on both hardware and software. They also received orientation on how to update and maintain the CPPIS.

Based on the findings of communication assessment done last year, the physical repairing of wireless network and the primary rehabilitation process of 88 radio stations has been completed by the end of September. Three teams comprising of one mast climber and one technician for each team have worked on non-radio repairs including station re-locations, mast repairs/re-installations, battery replacement, solar power controller replacement, electric maintenance, solar panel replacement, securing the mast, painting of mast, replacement and repair of guy wire, painting of radio shelf, etc. This upgrade will have a positive impact on the coastal communities as the rehabilitated radio station will help them to have proper early warning during the next cyclone season.

The international procurement for 124 VHF and 42 HF radios and associated accessories from Geneva, Switzerland and the United States was done with the approval of the Foreign Ministry and Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC). Led by two American Red Cross emergency response unit (ERU) volunteers, the radio replacement, repairing and maintenance activities for radio rehabilitation process is being done in all zones. To date, 33 sets in 22 stations have been completed and a total of 74 HF/VHF operators underwent hands-on training on radio repair and maintenance.



A mock drill conducted by the cyclone preparedness programme volunteers at Dwalatkhan community to disseminate cyclone warning messages. **Photo:** IFRC

Considering the cyclone season (October-November), dry cell batteries for 96 VHF/HF radio stations and mega-phones were replaced. A total of 7,682 pieces of big sized and 15,606 pieces of medium sized batteries were purchased and delivered at the end of September 2011. The CPP volunteers are responsible to disseminate early warning messages through megaphones, hand sirens and other equipments. To ensure effective and efficient dissemination of the early warning of any potential cyclone and tidal surge, the batteries for these equipments are needed to be replaced twice a year. In addition to this, for raising mass awareness on cyclone preparedness measures, early warning at

community and family levels, two mock exercises were organized in Subornachar, Noakhali zone, and in Borhanuddin, Bhola district. Thousands of community people witnessed the mock drills.

Programme component 1.3: Urban DRR/Earthquake preparedness and response programme (EPRP)

A positive transformation has been brought in the EPRP department as a process of scaling up its work on urban disaster risk management. In EPRP, the focus was only on earthquake, leaving many urban hazards, social and environmental problems unaddressed. Hence, aiming to focus on urban DRR context, a consultative meeting was held on 20 September at the IFRC country office. Key DM people from IFRC and

BDRCS took part in the meeting. The meeting identified BDRCS strengths, limitations, challenges and scope of focusing urban DRR context through the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats (SWOT) analysis. Then, as per the meeting findings, BDRCS recently renamed its EPRP department as the urban disaster risk reduction (UDRR) department to address multiple hazards, social and environmental vulnerabilities. Following this paradigm shift, proposal development for UDRR is in progress. Another proposal on disaster preparedness for safer school (DPSS) targeting 50 schools has already been submitted to NSET Nepal for their further review.

Under the then-EPRP programme, some of the follow up activities were done. First aid kits were provided to all 55 schools and eight colleges of Dhaka, Chittagong, Rangpur and Sylhet in mid-July. Search and rescue (SAR) equipments were sent to Rangpur unit on 19 July to ensure effective and timely emergency response. When some incidents happened during the reporting period, trained EPRP volunteers provided first aid and SAR services to the affected people. On 1 July, there was a landslide in Chittagong and BDRCS EPRP volunteers were the second unit to respond to that incident.

Programme component 1.4: Response and Preparedness for Response

Response

Since mid-August, excessive rain in many of the low-lying areas in Satkhira and Jessore districts has led to displacement of over 50,000 families or approximately 250,000 people. The overflowing water from the local river Kobodac in Jessore district has further worsened the situation, causing people to be trapped in waterlogged conditions for an estimated two to three months. Moreover, a considerable number of districts in Bangladesh were reported to be flooded during the second and third weeks of July, with Cox's Bazar district being the worst affected. Continuous torrential rain coupled with a monsoonal depression since July in the Bay of Bengal has affected more than 700,000 people in the south-central and south west districts of Bangladesh, affecting at least 18 of the 64 districts.

Combining the DREF operation which was initially initiated by BDRCS/IFRC in Cox's Bazar district to support 5,000 families, IFRC launched an Emergency Appeal on 26 August 2011 to support BDRCS in assisting another 5,000 families in Satkhira and Jessore with immediate relief items and services such as food, emergency shelter, health, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and livelihoods. This Emergency Appeal sought CHF 1,267,094 to assist total 10,000 beneficiaries (50,000 individuals) within eight months

Relief operation in Cox's Bazar has been completed, supporting 5,000 families with basic NFIs (jerry cans), hygiene parcel, oral rehydration solutions (ORS), WPT and emergency shelter materials (tarpaulins) while 1,000 most vulnerable families out of the 5,000 family were also provided with emergency food and BDT 500 cash.

BDRCS Satkhira and Jessore units distributed cooked food among approximately 29,000 affected people at their temporary shelters, i.e. schools, colleges, cyclone shelters or other evacuation centres in the affected areas. As of 5 November, 4,915 out of 5,000 beneficiary families received NFIs (sarees, lungis, tarpaulins and jerry cans) in Satkhira and Jessore. The rest of the NFI items and hygiene parcels were distributed by the end of November. Under the drinking water distribution activity of the Emergency Appeal operation, regular shallow hand pump tube-wells had been installed, of which three are in Keshapur upazila in Jessore providing water from 36-60 litres per day to 129-180 families and eight out 10 tube-wells in eight villages under Tala Upazilla in Satkhira had been installed benefitting a total of 800 families with around 40 litres of water per person per day. In addition, assessment on early recovery for shelter and livelihood is currently being carried out while designing and requisition for construction of community and household based latrine and bath areas for male and female in the affected areas is underway.

Preparedness for response

The following list is the major activities carried out during the reporting period:

- Under the concept of decentralization response capacity, construction of warehouse in a BDRCS strategic unit is in progress; necessary documentation for land allocation, drawing of structure, tender advertisement, etc. has been done. Procurement of NFIs (warm clothes) to be prepositioned at the strategic unit is underway.
- Construction of a multi-purpose meeting/library space for DMWGB secretariat/BDRCS response coordination centre and knowledge management centre (KMC) is in progress; selection of site, drawing and tender advertisement has been done. As the fund is earmarked for 2011, the activity is expected to be done by the end of December 2011.
- Procurement of standard NDRT kits and personal gears (laptop, camera, mobile phone, portable printer, portable generator, internet device, GPS, etc) is in progress, which will be prepositioned at DMWGB secretariat for use by NDRT members in case of deployment.
- IFRC has joined the initiatives taken for translation of SPHERE book into Bangla language by ECB and other key response actors in Bangladesh. IFRC has placed a pledge of BDT 300,000 (CHF 3,442) as a co-contribution to the translation work.
- BDRCS/IFRC has been requested by ECB and others in Bangladesh to host the first meeting for formation of SPHERE Community in Bangladesh (SCB). The meeting took place on 1 December 2011 and BDRCS/IFRC has been requested to be the Secretariat of the SCB for the first six months. Following the meeting, BDRCS/IFRC will facilitate creating a pool of SPHERE trainers to support in promoting minimum standards to be maintained in humanitarian response.
- As part of extending disaster response tool in BDRCS, the second NDRT training course was held from 4-10 December. Following a pre-disaster meeting, an agreement has been finalized to be signed between the Movement partners in the country to support BDRCS in responding to small and localized disasters that do not meet the thresholds of DREF or the emergency appeal.

Programme component 1.5: Climate Change Adaptation

The “Building Community Resilience through Climate Change Adaptation (CCA)” project has been conceived, developed and is being implemented by keeping in mind climate risk reduction of eight vulnerable communities through their direct participation and contribution. Community leadership will be assessed through vulnerability capacity assessment (VCA) to determine their priority needs in relation to CCA.

A knowledge management framework has been prepared for BDRCS as part of the preparation for establishing the knowledge management system, in line with the BDRCS mandate to Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP) 2009 and DRM strategy 2010-14. This framework will ensure the smooth information flow within BDRCS and with relevant actors in CCA as well as between the communities. A project brochure has been prepared both in English and Bangla. The activities related to publishing e-newsletter and offering a fellowship for the first year is in progress. BDRCS is exploring collaboration with the EPFL and other local universities, such as University of Dhaka and BRAC University amongst others to offer the advanced course in CCA/DRR. To facilitate knowledge management activities under the project a voluntary advisory group consisting of CC/DRR experts in Bangladesh has been formed.



Participants of the climate change adaptation project induction workshop. **Photo:** IFRC.

Focusing on the objective of enhancing the capacity and understanding of the CCA project staff to be able to perform smooth implementation of the project, a four-day induction workshop was held on November 14-17 at Proshika Manobik Unnayan Kendra, Koitta, Manikganj. A total of 36 participants (13 were women) participated in the workshop.

As part of VCA to guide the priority actions to be implemented, a baseline survey is being conducted and was completed by the first week of December. Following the baseline survey, VCA exercises were held in each of the eight communities.

Organizing the knowledge management centre is in progress; construction of a room for BDRCS DMWGB (Disaster Management Working Group Bangladesh) is being done at the national headquarters, where there is a separate space for knowledge management centre to operate its activities.

Under the knowledge management component of the project, a web portal was launched in December, which facilitated the e-library of reference materials, books, information, facts in DRR/CCA, etc. The layout and content has been finalized. To complement in knowledge management activities, coordination has been established with the Red Cross Red Crescent climate centre.

Implementation of BDRCS DRM Strategy 2010-14

BDRCS with the support from IFRC has developed its five-year DRM Strategy 2010-14 in line with IFRC's Strategy 2020 and mandates in national DRR strategies. The strategy has now been endorsed and approved by BDRCS governance. However, there is a need of an implementation plan for the strategy so that all DM programmes maintain consistency in terms of programme design and implementation approach. Hence, BDRCS intends to develop an implementation plan and disseminate the strategy within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners in country and other relevant stakeholders.

Constraints or Challenges

- Sometime the planned activity of ECPP could not start as per schedule due to lengthy and time consuming fund transfer process between BDRCS and CPP account system.
- Procurement procedure consumes long time resulting into delayed distribution of food items.
- Due to lack of clear phase out/exit strategy, CBDRR follow-up programme could not be implemented as it was planned.

Programme component 1.6: Sidr Recovery Programme - Community-based Development Initiatives (CDI)

The community-based development initiatives (CDI) is a community-based socio-economic development programme, under the overall framework of the Sidr recovery programme, being implemented with the Sidr emergency appeal leftover fund in eight communities of four districts of Bangladesh: Natore, Magura, Kushtia and Nilphamari. The overall goal of CDI programme is to increase the communities' resilience to disasters and raise the income level and living condition of over 10,000 people in eight impoverished communities of Bangladesh by 2012. As the programme takes a holistic and integrated approach to address the needs of the targeted communities, over 13 sectors are covered by the programme. These sectors are: water and sanitation, shelter, livelihood and income generation, education, health, farm and food security, employment creation, women empowerment, promotion of environment friendly-sustainable technologies, information and communications, capacity building of BDRCS and community based organizations, DRR and promotion of Red Cross Red Crescent principles and humanitarian values.

The programme has now picked up the momentum and targeted people are beginning to get support and services from the project. Followings are the sector-wise key activities implemented during the second half of 2011.

Livelihood/Income Generation Sector: (Expected sectoral outcomes: Household source of income diversified, family income level raised at least to the poverty threshold. Idle youth forces are engaged in meaningful or productive works. Several people receive skill trainings on various trades and employment opportunities improved. More crops/vegetables produced and the food security situation improved in all targeted communities.)

Key activities carried out in this reporting period:

- All 2,252 households are now trained on homestead gardening. A total of 117 households have been trained in this period and the rest was trained in the previous reporting period.
- Saplings and seeds for homestead gardening were also distributed in this reporting period. In total 1,638 households were given 10 types of saplings like mango, guava, lychee, etc. to plant in each homestead garden. Some 2,242 households were also given seven types of seeds of gourd, pumpkin, bean, celery, greens, papaya, etc., for homestead gardening. Many beneficiaries have now grown the seeds and saplings in their courtyard and already started to consume the vegetables that they planted.
- Two three-month long computer trainings for 22 unemployed youths (10 in Magura and 12 in Natore) were organised in Magura and Natore, and participants were awarded professional certificate upon completion of the training.
- Fifty unemployed women of Cheweria village of Kushtia completed skill training on handicraft in this reporting period. More 100 women are receiving now the similar training in Magura (30), Kushtia (30, Nauda Khadimpur) and Nilphamari (40, Jalipara).
- Twelve women already completed the tailoring training in Natore. An additional 28 women are currently undergoing such training in Nilphamari, Kushtia and Natore. The duration of the tailoring training is three months.
- A three-day training on “Basic Solar System” for 22 youths from four districts was conducted by DISA, a national NGO. Of the 22, eight youths have already been employed by the same NGO as a “field promoter”.
- The proposal writing for the household level income generating assistance (IGA) project is on-going. By the end of this reporting period, a total of 834 proposals have been prepared in four districts. As an effort to contribute to the household income and reduce poverty, families living under the poverty threshold are given conditional cash grant of BDT 15,000 (CHF 172) to start an income generating project at the household level. The cash grant is transferred to the individual bank account, and the process to open bank accounts is currently ongoing. To date, 754 beneficiaries have opened bank accounts.



Community women in the adult literacy class enthusiastically learning basic reading and writing.
Photo: IFRC.

Health and Education Sector: (Expected sectoral outcomes: Health awareness is increased and primary health care and first aid services are available in the community itself. Communities are better prepared and able to cope with possible health disasters if and when occur. Infant/child and maternal mortality rates reduced. Literacy level in the community increased significantly and number of children of school-going-age out of formal school decreased. Access and opportunity for formal education increased.)

Key activities carried out in this reporting period:

- Forty-nine non-formal education schools (10 in Magura, 14 in Nilphamari, 14 in Kushtia and 11 in Natore) are ongoing. To date, 17 such schools have already been completed. At the end of sixth month of the class, an examination was taken and most of the learners have done well in the examination except a few who failed to pass the examination. So far, a total of 510 adult learners have completed their education and 1,470 adult and adolescent students are continuing learning at the moment. A follow up activities for students who have completed the classes is being designed now to ensure the continuity of their learning interest and refreshing their skill and knowledge.
- A total of 68 MCH courtyard meetings have been conducted for sensitization of health issues of the mothers in the community in four programme districts.
- Social awareness campaign against various social issues and ill practices is ongoing. During this reporting period, over 600 households were reached by the programme.
- The distribution of a cash incentive to poor students has started. To date, 300 students from poor families have already received the incentive. Under this programme, each selected student receives a cash grant of BDT 100 (CHF 1.15) per month as an incentive to continue the school which will reduce the rate of drop out mainly due to financial reason.
- A mobile health check up camp was organised at Jalipara of Nilphamari where 203 patients got free health check up by specialist doctors.
- Two trainings on CBHFA were conducted in Natore. A total of 48 volunteers from four districts participated in the training. With the training of these volunteers, CBHFA activities will begin in communities.

Watsan and Shelter Sector: (Expected sectoral outcomes: Water, hygiene and sanitation situation in targeted villages has improved significantly. Prevalence of waterborne diseases has reduced. Drinkable water available to all households in all seasons. All houses in the community are more resilient to disasters like flood, cyclone, tropical storms, etc.)

Key activities carried out in this reporting period:

- The participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation (PHAST) sessions are going on in the community level. In total, 474 PHAST sessions have been conducted in eight communities of four districts. Furthermore, a hygiene behaviour change and diseases surveillance survey had been conducted. According to diseases surveillance survey, the water and faecal-borne diseases decreased significantly in Magura and Nilphamari. However, only a little decrease of water and faecal-borne diseases was found in Kushtia. Some increase in Natore can be attributed to the monsoon floods and water logging in the communities.
- Tube-well installation is yet to be completed mainly due to slow work of the contractor. To date, 33 new shallow tube-wells have been installed in four CDI districts and the water testing of these tube-wells was done. No adverse results were found. The platform construction is currently taking place. Installation of the deep tube well, however, is on hold at the moment due to inability of the contractor to drill deeper than 560 feet. As the area is arsenic prone and arsenic was detected at 560 feet, each deep tube well must go below this level up to the last aquifer to get arsenic-free water.



A recently repaired shallow tube well. The project repaired the pump and constructed new platform. Tested water quality and found drinkable. **Photo:** IFRC

- Repairing of the existing tube-wells as well is going on at the moment. To date, 89 tube-wells have been repaired in three districts (Magura, Natore and Nilphamari). The repair work in Kushtia district will begin soon. In Kushtia, all existing shallow tube wells will be converted to tara pumps so that it can work in the dry season as well. If this technology works well, there will not be any need for the installation of deep tube wells in Kushtia. Deep tube wells are installed mainly in arsenic contaminated area or dry area where shallow tube well does not pump the water in dry season.



Rings for the household latrine being constructed. CDI programme is constructing rings and slabs in the communities and distributing to targeted beneficiaries.
Photo: IFRC

- Construction of rings and slabs for household latrine has almost been completed. Out of the total planned 1,079 sets, 899 sets of ring and slabs have been constructed in four districts to date. A total of 417 sets have already been distributed to beneficiaries in Nilphamari and Magura.
- During the period under review, a total of 12 PASSA courtyard sessions have been conducted. Shelter technical assessment is ongoing in all four districts. Based on the assessment report and

PASSA meeting recommendations, the shelter support will be provided to targeted beneficiaries.

DRR and Development Sector: (Expected sectoral outcomes: Women are aware of their rights and opportunities, gain more confidence, increase their earning power as well as enhance their overall security. Fuel efficiency and health friendly technology like improved cooking stoves, bio gas, are widely used in the communities. Household solid waste is better managed and converted into bio fertilizers. Community people get access and exposed to vital information as well as able to secure specialists' guidance and advices on various issues of daily life. People's awareness and confidence increased and social problems and myths reduced. Capacity of BDRCS units in CDI programme districts enhanced in participatory planning, management and disaster response/management in their districts. Communities are aware of possible disasters in their communities and ways to reduce risks and impacts as far as possible. Community people are better aware of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and activities. Public acceptance and support to Red Cross Red Crescent Movement increased.)

Key activities carried out in this reporting period:

- The construction of eight community information centres (CIC) is completed during this reporting period. Procurement of necessary equipment is in process. The CIC will be equipped with audiovisual equipment and internet connection so that community will have access to vital information and also can establish link with outside experts in health, agriculture, livelihood and other social issues. The communities have appreciated the construction of such a centre and they are already using this for regular gathering and meetings, PASSA and PHAST sessions, CPC, CDRT meetings, etc.
- Community programme committees (CPC) is



A recently constructed community information centre in Natore. CDI has constructed 8 of these centers, 1 in each community. This centre will be equipped with audiovisual equipment and internet connection to provide access to information to the community.
Photo: IFRC

meeting regularly. A total of 32 CPC meetings were conducted during this period. Beside that, eight unit disaster response team meetings had been conducted in four districts.

- Thirty-seven courtyard meetings on DRR took place in eight communities, and the main objective was to increase community's knowledge about disaster response and preparedness as well as mitigation measures.
- The renovation of BDRCS unit offices in Kushtia, Nilphamari, Natore and Magura has been completed now. The CDI programme decided to renovate/refurbish the BDRCS unit offices in order to provide a safe and sound working environment. Under this renovation programme, a rugged building that is over a century old in Nilphamari has now been completely renovated to the satisfaction of the unit members and everyone concerned. Apart from the renovation of the existing building, a new annex has been constructed in Natore. Similarly, an extra room has been constructed together with the renovation of the existing building in Magura. As the existing office in Kushtia is strong and sound condition, only minor renovation and partition of a room was done there.
- Sixteen improved cooking stoves have been installed at Nouda Khadimpur and Cheweria communities in Kushtia district and more are in process of installation. The purpose of this programme is to reduce the health hazard by fire smoke and also reduce the consumption of firewood and other cooking fuels. These stoves are low cost stoves prepared mainly with mud and locally available materials by local technician and after installation monitoring and repair is provided by the locally trained volunteers. In addition, a two-day training on "Improved Cooking Stoves" was conducted in Kushtia. A total of 40 community volunteers participated in the training from Magura and Kushtia. These volunteers will help to install and repair the improved cooking stoves in communities.



A community link road construction in progress in Baishpukur community of Nilphamari. This, the only access road, provides important access of the community to the outside markets. **Photo:** IFRC

- A total of 125 community volunteers from four districts were trained on DRR. The participants also prepared the hazard map and VCAs as well as local DRR plan of action during the training.
- A community link road, about 0.71 km long, has been constructed in Baishpukur community of Nilphamari district. The construction of this road with brick soling and single layer hearing bone bond has enabled community people to ride and drive motorcycles and light vehicles on this road. As this section of the way previously was a river and is now sandy, two wheelers and light vehicles could not go through the deep sandy layers. Hence it was the demand of the community to repair this part of the road with brick soling and single layer hearing bone bond so that vehicles can pass easily. The rest of the portion is muddy but still passable with a little levelling and repair by the community. The community wants to make the entire length of the community road, about 3 km, out of concrete and permanent but it was beyond the means of the CDI programme to spend over BDT 8 million (CHF 92,070) just for this activity.
- The IEC materials on Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and DRR have been distributed to all 2,252 households of the CDI programme.
- A unit disaster response fund (UDRF) of BDT 100,000 (CHF 1,151) has been set up in each unit to enable the unit to respond immediately in small scale disasters in the district. This is a revolving fund and the unit would have to raise funds locally and replenish the used amount to ensure the fund can continue and assist in future disasters. The units have expressed their commitment to use the fund in a proper way and replenish it as required.

Tentative Plan for December 2011: Preparation of IGA proposal will continue and 400 proposals were written in December. Following the proposals, bank accounts will be opened for an additional 400 beneficiaries. The first instalment of the IGA cash grant will be distributed to 1,000 households. One hundred women will complete the ongoing handicraft training. Tailoring training continued in December. A veterinary training for community people will be organised. Likewise, trainings on micro irrigation and women empowerment were held in December. Community drama and expert lectures on social issues like dowry, child marriage, early age pregnancy, domestic violence, etc, will be organised mainly to raise awareness on these issues in the communities.

Forty-nine non-formal schools will continue and another four to five new schools will be started. Additionally, 369 students will receive cash incentive. CBHFA flip charts will be printed and CBHFA courtyard sessions will start in communities. First aid kits will be distributed to trained volunteers. Seven mobile health check-up camps were organised in December.

PHAST sessions will continue. Shelter technical assessment will be completed and the report will be prepared. Repairing of the remaining tube wells will be completed. Distribution of latrines construction materials were completed in December. The construction of household latrines started in December.

CIC will be equipped and handed over to communities for management and use. A CIC management guideline is being prepared. Monthly CPC, DPC and UDRT meetings will continue. Installation of improved cooking stoves will continue and a minimum of 100 such stoves were installed in December. Installation of biogas will also begin in few household of Nilphamari and Kushtia. Training of compost pit and actual construction of compost pit in selected households started in December. Response kits were distributed to all UDRT and CDRT members.

CDI programme impact so far: Though most of the activities only started at the beginning of this year, some positive impacts are already seen and felt in communities. Despite earlier scepticism, attendance in adult literacy classes, especially women, is very encouraging. In the backdrop of the failed literacy programme (TLM) of the government, many people did not believe that a literacy programme would run in such a successful way. Women mainly in the 30-60 age group are regularly attending the class despite their household chores and other day-to-day priorities. The progress in learning as well is very encouraging and most of all learners already recognise letters and numbers and are able to write their names and read the given book. Apart from reading and writing skills, they have gained more confidence and their horizon of thinking has widened and changed positively.



A lady reading fluently a biogas programme pamphlet. She had just completed the six-month long literacy class in Magura district.

Photo: IFRC

Over 100 community youths are now trained on various skills and some of them have even started earning something utilising the skills learned. Eight youths have got a permanent job in an NGO with monthly salary of around BDT 6,000 (CHF 69). Trainees of tailoring and handicraft trainings have also started earning either as an employee of others or through self employment.

Communities are fetching safe drinking water from newly installed or recently repaired tube wells. All water sources have been tested for arsenic contamination and most of them are found arsenic free. Contaminated sources, if any, are marked as unusable and alternative sources are being installed. After receiving

homestead gardening training, vegetable seeds and fruit saplings, many households have already grown vegetables and fruits around their houses and even started consuming them.

People are taking greater interest in ongoing PHAST, PASSA and other DRR sessions. There is already an indication of positive change in their hygiene behaviour. The disease survey was conducted recently in all eight communities where cases of water and faecal-borne diseases are reduced, despite this survey was taken during the monsoon season when cases of waterborne diseases are usually high. Of course not all communities are doing well in this regard and more needs to be done to refresh knowledge and motivate people to live a hygienic and healthy life.

The BDRCS unit offices are renovated and they project now better image and safe working environment. The unit has now gained much experience in management of this sort of community programmes. BDRCS is now in regular interaction with community people and everyone in the community is ware of the Red Cross and Red Crescent which was not the case before the start of the project. BDRCS units have set up a unit disaster response fund with BDT 100,000 (CHF 1,150) which will enable them to respond quickly in any local level disaster. Hazard mapping is done in all communities and trained community disaster response teams (CDRT) are in place. The CDI programme has not only supported the vulnerable communities but also strengthened/empowered BDRCS units as well by providing material support as well as involving them directly in programme implementation.

Health and Care

Programme component	Outcome (s)
Road safety	First aid is ensured during the golden hour.
Anaemia prevention	Community is better aware on basic nutrition and hygiene, and nutritional status of children and adolescent girls is improved.
Community-based health and first aid (CBHFA)	Provide training guidelines for community volunteers.
Public health in emergencies (PHiE)	Provide primary health care as a part of integrated response activities.

Achievements

Programme component 2.1: Road Safety

The project was initiated in 2008 with the Dhaka-Sylhet highway. Six first aid posts were established and a total of 24 local volunteers, four from each spot, were trained on first aid and were equipped with first aid kits. For dissemination of availability of volunteers, an information board was installed in every post on one side of the highway. Local units were fully involved with the implementation. Gradually the project was replicated in two more highways, Dhaka-Jessore and Dhaka-Chittagong, in 2010 and 2011 respectively. At present, 72 trained volunteers are available to provide FA in 18 different accident-prone spots of three main highways.

Programme component 2.2: Anaemia Prevention

The project was first started in 2008 in four vulnerable communities, two from river-erosion and two from cyclone-prone areas. In 2011, the project phased out from initial communities but replicated in to other two new flood affected vulnerable communities of Munshiganj and Manikganj. With the help of the respective units, 20 (17 are women) community volunteers are selected and trained on basic nutrition and hygiene. These volunteers are serving 10,000 people with the following activities:

- Educating community on nutrition and hygiene by using posters.
- Supplying medicine for removal of worms.
- Identifying individuals suffering from anaemia and supplying iron tablets.

- Encouraging families for kitchen gardening and supply iron rich vegetable seeds.

Programme component 2.3: CBHFA

The IFRC CBHFA participants' manual is translated into Bangla with the support of German Red Cross.

Programme component 2.4: PHiE

BDRCS has conducted a medical relief operation in the flood affected community of Satkhira district. Five medical teams, each headed by a graduate physician, served different communities in the flood affected area. The operation took place for two weeks in the second half of October. A total of 15,898 individuals received medical services including health education. In the disease profile, respiratory infection was the highest prevalence followed by diarrhoeal diseases and skin infections. About 76 per cent of the service seekers were women and children under five.

Constraints and Challenges

In the road safety project, the turnover rate of volunteers is high. This is primarily due to lack of regular contact by the BDRCS health persons. The other important reason is that the volunteers who attended for providing first aid after an accident some of them experienced later called by police to be as a witness and attend in the court. AS BDRCS do not have a regular supervisor to look after the activities, the recording and reporting is also poor.

Organizational development

Programme Component	Outcome(s)
Supporting national society organisational development process	BDRCS legal base has been revised in order to strengthen and focus the service delivery of the most vulnerable.
National Society leadership development	The effective utilization of human and financial resources of BDRCS, supported by effective leadership at all levels, is improved and ensured.
Performance	The quality and accountability of BDRCS service delivery is improved and strengthened.

Achievements

While giving continuity to activities/achievements made in the first half of 2011, the following activities were carried out during the reporting period.

- The legal base produced in the Rajendrapur workshop was rewritten in the Government of Bangladesh performa with the help of the law department consultant. As the Asia Pacific zone OD department advised BDRCS to get the best constitution of the National Society, the final discussion and deliberations between JSC, BDRCS senior management and the law ministry representative are still taking place.
- BDRCS called an ordinary general meeting (OGM) to review and approve the revised draft of the constitution. The OGM passed unanimously the revised constitution which can be taken as one of the historic achievements in the constitution revision process.
- Work on the enhancement of the digital and IT capability of BDRCS has started through the digital divide project. The procurement of various components is in progress and is scheduled to be completed in three months.
- Following the consultants report on Strategic Plan 2011-2015, BDRCS has taken it forward and the

Strategic Plan is in its final stage now.

- HR reform process has been started through a study by an HR consultant and the final report has been recently submitted and is currently being reviewed by the management.
- Changes to the legal base/new constitution have been approved by the highest governing body of BDRCS through an OGM.
- Work on the enhancement of the IT and digital capacity of BDRCS has started.

Constraints or Challenges

Getting the new constitution pass through the long parliamentary procedure is a challenge. It is hoped that it will eventually be approved by the Parliament in March 2012.

Working in partnership

BDRCS has been working in partnership with IFRC, ICRC, other partners of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, government agencies, other national and international organisations in order to better serve the people in need and fulfil its Red Cross Red Crescent mandates. For example, BDRCS is working very closely with IFRC and ICRC especially on the constitution revision process. The joint mission from both the organisations has played a vital role in drafting of the new constitution. The IFRC Asia Pacific zone OD department is also closely supporting the process with required technical/professional inputs/guidance.

BDRCS also works closely with the government in many areas. The cyclone preparedness programme (CPP) is a joint programme initiated by BDRCS and the Government of Bangladesh. While the health programme has close working relations with DG health of the Government of Bangladesh and WHO, other programmes as well cooperate and coordinate with department of public health, education, agriculture, LGED, upzilla/union level offices of the government.

For strengthening the CPP network at the national level, the project also interacts and coordinates with various international non-governmental organizations (INGO), national non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and UN organizations. The project has engaged with Save the Children, UNDP and other partner national societies (PNS) as well. The project also engages some other partners with specific skills towards achieving the goal of the project. The project engaged Bangladesh Amateur Radio League (BARL) who provided the technical assistance during CPP radio assessment.

Good working relationship has been established with some government supported programmes like Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme (CDMP) which has also been working in improving CPP and ensuring proper dissemination of early warning messages at newly expanded CPP command areas.

BDRCS/IFRC attends almost all national level policy making and coordination meetings in disaster response, risk reduction, climate change, etc. IFRC is also the member of the DER forum and Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) as well. Movement coordination meeting is organised regularly when all Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners take part.

These all coordination, cooperation and meeting within and outside the Movement, with government and non-government agencies have certainly helped positively in programme implementation and this effort of interagency coordination and cooperation will be further strengthened in days to come.

Contributing to longer-term impact

Programmes/projects do contribute to the long-term impact and sustainable development of the project communities, institutions and stakeholders concerned. The road safety project through its first aid and

awareness building activities has the potential to reduce the deaths and disabilities due to road accidents. Furthermore, in Bangladesh, almost 50 per cent population is anaemic. Lessons learned shows that simple interventions on basic nutrition and hygiene can bring significant positive changes.

On the OD front, the new constitution will make BDRCS more democratic and closer to the volunteer and the Red Crescent cadre. A shift from the present system of nominations of key people will mean more independence. The constitutional reform will also mean that the governance and the management will be separate and independent to carry out their prescribed roles as per the new constitution. The IT and digital enhancement will lead to better data management in BDRCS that will in turn help in improving the service delivery of the National Society for the vulnerable people. The knowledge management framework would ensure services of information capturing and sharing in the traditional and practiced knowledge as well as the effective scientific knowledge on CCA and DRR]through the mentioned network between BDRCS staff and volunteers, communities, relevant actors and organizations. This knowledge information service will continue to benefit BDRCS volunteers, staff and other stakeholders for CCA/DRR programme planning, academic and research purpose. Moreover, information collected through this framework will be considered as the core source of resources for the Climate Knowledge Centre (CKC) considered as a hub to profile, showcase and share knowledge on Community Based Adaptation initiatives to benefit within the National Society, sister national societies in South Asia, Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and other external partners.

Advanced course in CCA and DRR is very new to this country, offering this course with one of the prominent universities in Europe (EPFL) and with renowned local universities would add value to the professionals in these sectors and enrich them local and international knowledge in CCA and DRR tools and techniques. And also encourage them to share and disseminate their received knowledge with others and at their implementation level.

IFRC has been supporting the CPP for many years and would continue this support in the coming years, depending upon funding availability. The repairing and rehabilitation of radio station will keep the wireless communication functional whereas the replacement of the batteries will keep the warning message dissemination equipment functional. The training on basic IT and CPPIS has enhanced the skill of the officers from national headquarters to field level. The officers are now able to update and edit information of CPPIS. IFRC regularly maintains liaison, coordination and shared all relevant information with Government and other stakeholders with a view to proper utilization of recourses as well as to avoid the overlapping of CPP related activities. This will help for smooth implementation of project activities in future as well.

Looking ahead

The coming few months are very crucial for the future of BDRCS. With a lot of momentum on the constitution reform, the next few months may take BDRCS into a new era of more independence and democratic governance. The reform process then rolled out including the HR will see the capacity of the National Society developed and consolidated in a manner that would benefit the vulnerable to the maximum. The digital divide project will also see better technology put in use to go closer to the vulnerable and volunteers as well as improve the service delivery to them.

The CCA project is contributing to reduce the vulnerabilities of people through enhanced resilience capacity of the communities as well as reduce disaster risk associated with climate change impact in Bangladesh. As the project is in initial stage, the achievements are not that much visible at the moment but some progress is already seen in knowledge management area. Field level implementation already started and communities are very enthusiastic about the project activities and committed to actively participate in the planned activities.

All the agencies in Dhaka including the donors are looking forward for the launching of the CPPIS. The replacement of the batteries has ensured that the early warning dissemination equipment keeps functioning.

There is also a positive development to note that BDRCS will, from now on, allocate some fund for the CPP in its annual budget.

Other projects like CDI and CBDRR have gained confidence and support of the communities and their interventions are already proving useful and effective. The CDI programme that focuses mainly on education and poverty reduction together with improvement of health and hygiene condition of the rural poor. The CDI programme not only supports and empowers communities but also BDRCS units through training, material support and real-time experience in programme implementation. There is already a growing demand from communities and BDRCS governance for similar type of programmes like CDI.

Hence when looking back to beginning this year and progress made in the current period as well, it presents positive hope and scenario for the programmes and Red Cross Red Crescent initiatives in days ahead.

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 Disaster 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.

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Saving lives, changing minds.



The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of nonviolence and peace.

Find out more on www.ifrc.org

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Please send all funding pledges to zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org.

[<financial report below; click to return to title page>](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAABD001 - Bangladesh

Interim Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/1-2011/11
Budget Timeframe	2011/1-2011/12
Appeal	MAABD001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	1,820,092	70,000	90,000	3,500	165,000	2,148,592
B. Opening Balance	2,721,070	54,991	60,959	0	101,627	2,938,647
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
American Red Cross	80,159					80,159
China Red Cross, Hong Kong branch	388,250					388,250
DFID Partnership grant	308,314					308,314
European Commission - DG ECHO	-20,707					-20,707
Japanese Red Cross Society	21,331	21,331				42,662
Norwegian Red Cross	1,404					1,404
Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government)	33,689					33,689
Taiwan Red Cross Organisation	336,090	154,420				490,510
The Canadian Red Cross Society	633,648		309,349			942,997
C1. Cash contributions	1,782,176	175,751	309,349			2,267,276
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
American Red Cross	84,700					84,700
Other	0					0
C3. Inkind Personnel	84,700					84,700
<u>Other Income</u>						
Services Fees					63,801	63,801
C4. Other Income					63,801	63,801
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)	1,866,876	175,751	309,349		63,801	2,415,777
D. Total Funding = B + C	4,587,947	230,742	370,308	0	165,427	5,354,423
Appeal Coverage	252%	330%	411%	0%	100%	249%

II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	2,721,070	54,991	60,959	0	101,627	2,938,647
C. Income	1,866,876	175,751	309,349		63,801	2,415,777
E. Expenditure	-1,405,330	-54,242	-79,412		-151,183	-1,690,166
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	3,182,617	176,500	290,896	0	14,244	3,664,257

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAABD001 - Bangladesh

Interim Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/1-2011/11
Budget Timeframe	2011/1-2011/12
Appeal	MAABD001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		1,820,092	70,000	90,000	3,500	165,000	2,148,592	
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Construction - Facilities	66,952	23,715					23,715	43,237
Construction Materials	46,533	154					154	46,378
Clothing & Textiles	37,000							37,000
Seeds & Plants	38,805	38,132	133				38,265	540
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	53,063	44,568					44,568	8,495
Medical & First Aid	4,730	1,464	544				2,008	2,722
Teaching Materials	15,000	207					207	14,793
Other Supplies & Services	208,315	53,432	1,806				55,238	153,078
Cash Disbursement	37,481	62,259					62,259	-24,778
Total Relief items, Construction, Supplies	507,880	223,932	2,482				226,414	281,466
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Land & Buildings	5,694	479					479	5,216
Vehicles		3,389					3,389	-3,389
Computers & Telecom	15,957	60,379					60,379	-44,423
Office & Household Equipment	16,600	13,254				71	13,326	3,274
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	38,251	77,502				71	77,573	-39,322
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Storage	100	37				48	85	15
Distribution & Monitoring	61,913	37,838	230				38,069	23,844
Transport & Vehicles Costs	59,421	36,360	-1,327	940		3,333	39,306	20,115
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	121,434	74,235	-1,097	940		3,381	77,459	43,975
Personnel								
International Staff	486,625	360,027	20,489			108,201	488,717	-2,093
National Staff	223,235	98,843	9,893	14,236		37,591	160,562	62,673
National Society Staff	134,914	142,778	2,907	1,843			147,528	-12,614
Volunteers	400	1,713	105				1,818	-1,418
Total Personnel	845,173	603,361	33,393	16,079		145,792	798,625	46,549
Consultants & Professional Fees								
Consultants	55,117	32,226		12,589			44,815	10,302
Professional Fees	500							500
Total Consultants & Professional Fees	55,617	32,226		12,589			44,815	10,802
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	199,305	138,277	11,094	28,127		1,972	179,470	19,835
Total Workshops & Training	199,305	138,277	11,094	28,127		1,972	179,470	19,835
General Expenditure								
Travel	37,632	4,881	567	1,044		2,287	8,779	28,853
Information & Public Relations	64,350	21,062	1,182	957		65	23,266	41,084
Office Costs	44,481	36,558	17	206		3,219	40,001	4,480
Communications	38,535	38,187	303	111		2,139	40,740	-2,204
Financial Charges	52,666	39,981				-17,077	22,905	29,762
Other General Expenses	12,133	441	1,039	151		107	1,738	10,395
Total General Expenditure	249,797	141,110	3,109	2,469		-9,260	137,427	112,370
Depreciation								
Assets Depreciation		2,687					2,687	-2,687
Total Depreciation		2,687					2,687	-2,687
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		22,208	1,467	13,352			37,027	-37,027
Total Operational Provisions		22,208	1,467	13,352			37,027	-37,027
Indirect Costs								

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III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure						Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	
A		B						A - B
BUDGET (C)		1,820,092	70,000	90,000	3,500	165,000	2,148,592	
Programme & Services Support Recov	131,135	80,004	3,279	4,781		9,227	97,292	33,843
Total Indirect Costs	131,135	80,004	3,279	4,781		9,227	97,292	33,843
Pledge Specific Costs								
Pledge Earmarking Fee		5,235	165	374			5,774	-5,774
Pledge Reporting Fees		4,554	350	700			5,604	-5,604
Total Pledge Specific Costs		9,789	515	1,074			11,378	-11,378
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	2,148,592	1,405,330	54,242	79,412		151,183	1,690,166	458,426
VARIANCE (C - D)		414,762	15,758	10,588	3,500	13,817	458,426	