

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Bangladesh: Cyclone AILA

DREF operation n° MDRBD004
GLIDE n° **TC-2009-000105-BGD**
2 June 2009

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.



Cyclone AILA caused extensive damage in south-western Bangladesh, destroying houses, crops and livestock. BDRCS.

CHF 253,397 (USD 237,528 or EUR 167,208) has been allocated from the International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the national society in delivering immediate assistance to some 10,000 families (approximately 50,000 people). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Cyclone AILA made landfall in the south western coast of Bangladesh on 25 May 2009. As of 29 May, government figures indicate that 3,709,334 people have been affected in 15 coastal districts, with 147 dead and 1,131 missing. Up to 230,208 houses were reportedly destroyed while those partially damaged stand at 315,018. The amount of damaged crops is estimated to be 340,660 acres.

The government, United Nations agencies, international and local non-governmental organizations have been providing relief materials and conducting assessments in the aftermath of the disaster. With time more details of damage are coming to light and the major concern has been that the water sources have been salinated and is not receding. This means that the major needs are drinking water and food. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, with support from the International Federation, have already started assessments and distributions of non-food items which include blankets, clothes and a hygiene pack from the National Society's disaster preparedness stocks for 8,000 families in the affected districts.

With further support from the International Federation's DREF, up to 10,000 affected families will be further assisted through food distributions in eight of the most affected districts within two months.

This operation is expected to be implemented over two months, and will therefore be completed by 2 August 2009; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by November 2009).

The following donors and partners support DREF: Danish Red Cross, Irish Red Cross/ Irish government, Japanese Red Cross, Monaco Red Cross/ Monaco government, Netherlands Red Cross/ Netherlands government, Norwegian Red Cross/ Norwegian government, Swedish Red Cross/ Swedish government, Italian government, United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO), OPEC Fund for International Development, and corporate and private donors.

The International Federation, on behalf of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, would like to thank all donors and partners for their generous support of DREF.

[<click here for the DREF budget,](#)
[or here for contact details,](#)
[or here for the map of the affected areas>](#)

The situation

The storm that ripped through the south-western coast of Bangladesh on 25 May and according to information from the food and disaster management ministry, left up to 100 dead and thousands marooned in the coastal areas comprising six districts. Maritime ports of Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and Mongla have since been advised to lower their respective warning signals.

Initial local media reports indicate that heavy rains coupled with gales flattened huge tracts of standing crops and washed away numerous fisheries. The rains also caused extensive damage to embankments in the coastal districts. According to the food and disaster management ministry, more than 800 people have been wounded and at least 100,500 domestic animals killed. River embankments broke and road networks, water systems as well as communications are hampered. The affected areas have been without electricity for over 24 hours. The national newspaper has reported that there is a scarcity of food, drinking water and medicines for those in cyclone shelters. Meanwhile, fears of an outbreak of diarrhoea and other water-borne diseases are growing. UN World Health Organization has reported a total of 686 medical teams (doctors, health assistants) working in the districts of Satkhira, Kulna, Bagerhat, Barisal, Patuakhali, Bhola, Borguna and Pirojpur providing emergency medical care, mostly first aid.

The government has deployed military, navy and the Bangladesh Rifles to help local administration and non-government organizations in rescue and relief operations. Up to five navy ships have been working to bring people stranded in offshore islands to safety. Some 278 water treatment units from the army are in operation to deal with the shortage of safe drinking water. The government administration will distribute rice among the victims through vulnerable group feeding (VGF) cards. The government has an adequate stock of rice at every district, and up to 2,500 tonnes of rice and CHF 205,000 (Tk 1.23 crore) in cash have been sent to local administrations for distribution to supplement their existing resources. The government will not seek assistance from the international community as long as it can tackle the situation independently.

Many areas of the affected districts that continue to be inundated, and houses, roads and embankments are damaged. Detailed assessments are currently in progress. Government administration, local elected representatives and other non-government organizations are working in rescue and response in cyclone affected upazilas around the coastal areas. These organizations have started their relief and rehabilitation operations immediately after the cyclone crossed over. The Bangladesh army and coast guards continue to support rescue operations.

Coordination and partnerships

The management of the operation will be done by Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) and supported by the International Federation, in coordination with district level government authorities. The BDRCS district branch personnel and volunteers will help in the distribution of the food and non-food relief items to the affected communities.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The BDRCS started distributing non-food relief items to approximately 8,000 affected families within the first 48 hours of the cyclone in eight affected districts, including Satkhira, Khulna, Bagerhat, Pirojpur, Borguna,

Patuakhali, Barisal and Bhola. The non-food relief package per family comprised of two blankets, two sarees, two lungis, a plastic sheet, jerry can, hygiene parcel, ten packets of oral rehydration salts, 20 water purification tablets and two additional garments. In addition, 800 tents were also distributed. Items distributed are from BDRCS disaster preparedness stocks supported by the International Federation.

Dry food items comprising of flattened rice and *jaggery* are being purchased locally at district levels by BDRCS branches for distribution. BDRCS headquarters distributed cash totaling BDT 30,000 (approximately CHF480) to each of its branches in Barguna, Barisal, Bhola, Bagerhat, Pirojpur, Khulna and Patuakhali, BDT 20,000 (CHF 316) to Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Laxmipur, Fenj and Noakhali, while BDT 50,000 (approximately CHF 800) was sent to Satkhira, for the purchase of dry foods for emergency distribution. In addition, the BDRCS branch in Satkhira successfully raised BDT 40,000 (CHF 632) with which they were able to provide cooked food to 3,700 people.

Up to six teams from BDRCS, supported by the International Federation, are conducting assessments in the affected communities and preparing for the response.

The needs

A government report on 28 May 2009 indicates damage assessed as below:

| Sl No | Name of District | No. of affected upazila | No. of affected union/Pourasava | | No. of Affected Family | No. of Affected People | Damaged Crops (Acre) | | Damaged Households | | No. of death | No. of injured people | No. of missing people | No. of livestock death | Affected Educational Institute | | Damaged Road (km) | | Damaged Bridge/Culvert | Damaged Embankments (km) | People took Shelter | |
|-------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------|
| | | | Full | Partial | | | Full | Partial | Full | Partial | | | | | Full | Partial | Full | Partial | | | | |
| | | | 4 | 5 | | | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | | | | | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | | | | 16 |
| 1 | Barisal | 10 | 72 | | 63203 | 267105 | 0 | 15592 | 368 | 6726 | 7 | 121 | | 6140 | 0 | 274 | | 692 | | | 25.3 | |
| 2 | Bhola | 7 | 67 | | 89869 | 413709 | 7960 | 22023 | 20266 | 47185 | 17 | 226 | 10 | 10377 | 158 | 485 | | 1817 | | | 219 | 173225 |
| 3 | Pirojpur | 7 | 11 | 43 | 66552 | 248470 | | 55107 | 2705 | 24380 | 1 | | | 14449 | | 172 | 295 | 631 | 80 | | 33.48 | |
| 4 | Patuakhali | 7 | 72 | | 139326 | 615785 | 14262 | 83736 | 34061 | 70695 | 8 | 610 | | 530 | | 26 | | 135 | | | 301 | 39400 |
| 5 | Borguna | 5 | 38 | | 60445 | 284079 | 36620 | 52660 | 3920 | 19658 | | | | 17294 | 24 | 238 | 83 | 290 | | | 77.57 | 78500 |
| 6 | Jhalokathi | 4 | 34 | | 69416 | 396877 | 11644 | 11621 | 2888 | 24800 | | | | 23197 | 63 | 793 | 250 | 832.8 | 94 | | 132.05 | |
| 7 | Khulna | 5 | 40 | | 92660 | 494900 | 1854 | 3980 | 42919 | 40934 | 35 | 73 | | 7122 | | 234 | 201 | 469 | | | 589 | 109000 |
| 8 | Bagerhat | 5 | 49 | | 56614 | 234237 | 1537 | 1106 | 2407 | 39060 | 2 | | | 1121 | | 308 | 37.8 | 614 | 31 | | 42 | 162700 |
| 9 | Satkhira | 7 | 10 | 68 | 114165 | 595122 | 454 | 183 | 115729 | 26055 | 43 | 5407 | | 13172 | 117 | 282 | 180 | 99 | 41 | | 117 | 119337 |
| 10 | Chittagong | 3 | 17 | | 4066 | 13530 | 235 | 234 | 673 | 1638 | 1 | 10 | | 100 | 10 | 32 | 31 | 111.5 | | | 20 | 4148 |
| 11 | Cox's Bazar | 8 | 26 | | 5874 | 29445 | | | 64 | 5924 | 2 | | | | | | | 3 | 51 | | 96.995 | 13700 |
| 12 | Laxmipur | 4 | 17 | | 2628 | 12371 | 350 | 4671 | 657 | 1561 | 7 | 6 | | 793 | | 19 | | 37 | | | 1 | 21030 |
| 13 | Feni | 1 | 4 | | 8600 | 40000 | | 496 | | | | | | | | | | 3 | 10 | | 2.3 | 2600 |
| 14 | Noakhali | 3 | 19 | | 9868 | 49244 | 127 | 1373 | 3499 | 5912 | 24 | 255 | | 6002 | 10 | 54 | 40 | 100 | | | 63 | 36200 |
| 15 | Chandpur | 2 | 15 | | 2721 | 14460 | 81 | 12753 | 52 | 490 | | | | 241 | 1 | 11 | | 120 | | | 6.5 | |
| | Total | 76 | 491 | 111 | 786007 | 3709334 | 75124 | 265535 | 230208 | 315018 | 147 | 6708 | 10 | 100538 | 383 | 2928 | 1124 | 6009.7 | 246 | 1726.195 | 759840 | |

[Source: Relief Control Cell, Ministry of Food and Disaster Management; Data Date: May, 28, 2009, 14:00 BST]

** Corrected figure of missing individuals is 1,131

The proposed operation

The proposed operation is based on available information from the government and initial assessments carried out by the National Society, as well as the capacity of the BDRCS. With support from the International Federation's DREF allocation, supplementary food rations will be procured and distributed to 10,000 severely affected families.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: 10,000 severely affected families receive emergency supplementary food rations.

Supported by the International Federation, BDRCS will assist up to 10,000 severely affected families through the distribution of supplementary food supplies. Support per family will comprise of a one time distribution of 20 kg rice, 5 kg pulse, 2 litres vegetable oil and 1 kg salt. Selected beneficiaries will include the 8,000 families that have received non-food items from disaster preparedness stocks, and 2,000 additional families will receive the non-food items from resources other than this DREF allocation. The distribution plan for families per district are as below:

1. Satkhira 1,600 families
2. Khulna 1,500 families
3. Bagerhat 1,000 families
4. Pirojpur 1,000 families
5. Borguna 1,000 families
6. Patuakhali 1,400 families
7. Barisal 1,000 families
8. Bhola 1,500 families

Activities planned:

- Door to door assessments
- Beneficiary registration
- Local procurement of food items according to International Federation standard procedures
- Dispatch and transportation by BDRCS to the distribution sites
- Storage and distribution of relief items, especially at unit level
- Distribution by trained volunteers
- Regular detailed monitoring and reporting of distributions
- Ongoing monitoring and technical advice by the BDRCS national headquarters and the International Federation

The DREF-supported distributions will be completed within two months, and a Final Report will be made available by October 2009.

How we work

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

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

Global Agenda Goals:

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

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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[<DREF budget and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

APPEAL BUDGET SUMMARY

Bangladesh : Cyclone AILA

MDRBD004

ORIGINAL

RELIEF NEEDS

Food 217,931

Total Relief Needs 217,931

TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES

Distribution & Monitoring 14,620

Transport & Vehicles Costs 3,362

GENERAL EXPENSES

Office running costs 405

Communication Costs 608

PROGRAMME SUPPORT

Programme Support - PSR 16,471

Total Operational Needs 35,466

Total Appeal Budget in CHF (Cash & Kind) 253,397

Less : Available Resources

Net Request in CHF 253,397



Bangladesh: Tropical Cyclone Aila

