

# INFORMATION BULLETIN



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## **BANGLADESH: TROPICAL STORMS**

1 May 2002

*Information Bulletin N° 2*

*Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) Allocated: CHF 102,346*

***This Bulletin is being issued in support of needs described below. A DREF allocation of CHF102,346 has been made by the Federation to facilitate action and donors are strongly urged to reimburse the fund as soon as possible. The allocation will also enable the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) to increase the level of its buffer stocks of emergency family kits in advance of the imminent monsoon flood season.***

### ***The Situation***

After a respite of almost a week, a further wave of tropical storms swept across Bangladesh on the evening of Friday 26 April 2002, causing further destruction and distress in many districts. Known locally as Norwesters, the storms again ravaged districts affected the previous week and extended as far south as Laxmipur on the river *Meghna*, where it widens to form an arm of the estuary into the Bay of Bengal. These new storms have uprooted trees, damaged 5,000 houses and crops over vast tracts of agricultural land. Electricity supplies and telephone communication to many areas have also been disrupted.

Based on information collected by and received from its district branches (units) - corroborating media reports, included CNN bulletins - the latest Bangladesh Red Crescent Society BDRCS situation report (issued on 28 April) indicates that 11 people have been killed and several hundreds injured. Of these, six were killed and more than 100 injured in five sub-districts of Kishoregonj-Kishoregonj sadar, Hussainpur, Pakundia, Kathiadi and Bajitpur, respectively. In Brahmanbaria, the storm is reported to have killed two and injured 30. In Mymensing, two people were killed and 50 injured by associated hailstorms. Five thousand hectares of crops, several huts and 20 educational institutions were also damaged.

In Jhenaidah district, a seven-year-old boy was killed and at least 40 others were injured. Five hundred houses were destroyed. Similar scenarios are reported from the BDRCS districts branches of Magura, Tangail, Sirajgonj and Moulavi Bazar, which - like others - have requested headquarters for support in providing urgently needed relief materials for the storm's most vulnerable victims.

### ***Red Cross/Red Crescent Action***

The BDRCS and the Federation Delegation have continued to monitor the situation. A number of affected units engaged their Red Crescent youth and squad volunteers to provide first aid to injured people and to transport severe cases to the nearest hospital. Gaibandha branch was the first to respond to the earlier storms, by dispatching members of its community based disaster preparedness (CBDP) squad to carry out vulnerability and needs assessments. It also withdrew BDT10,000 from its Disaster Emergency Fund for the local procurement of

relief commodities for immediate distribution in its catchment area. Similar action was later taken by other district squads and volunteers - particularly in Jamalpur, Lalmonirhat, Laximpur and Kishorgonj Districts.

In collaboration with the Federation Delegation, BDRCS has allocated 1,000 family emergency kits from its buffer stocks established with the aid of a DfID grant last year, for distribution in five districts, as indicated in the table below:

Name of Unit	Affected families	Targeted vulnerable families
Kishorgonj	1,600	200
Jamalpur	1,800	200
Lalmonirhat	2,800	200
Gaibandha	2,000	200
Laxmipur	1,200	200
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9,400</b>	<b>1,000</b>

The kits have been loaded on BDRCS trucks (see picture below) and were expected to reach their district destinations by early today.



An analysis of costs related to these operations and necessary replenishment of distribute stocks is attached at the end.

For a full description of the National Society profile, see [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)

*For further details please contact :*

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*All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.*

For support to or for further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal.

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<b>Tropical Storm Budget 2002</b>					
01.	1,000 Family @ CHF 22			CHF	22'000
02.	Distribution cost				
	- transportation from HQ to 5 units			CHF	1'000
	- secondary transportation for 5 units			CHF	700
'03.	Loading/unloading, warehousing			CHF	300
04.	BDRCS monitoring costs - 2 assesment teams				
	- Fuel, D/A, Accommodation, local transport			CHF	588
05.	Delegation evaluation and final reporting			CHF	500
	<b>Sub-total (in CHF) :</b>				<b>25'088</b>
	BDRCS additional emergency BUFFER stock (tornado,tropical storm, cyclone, flood)				
01.	3,000 Family @ CHF 22			CHF	66'000
	<b>Sub-total (in CHF) :</b>				<b>66'000</b>
	PSB 11% (25,088+66,000)			CHF	11'258
	<b>GRAND TOTAL (in CHF):</b>				<b>102'346</b>