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Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) India: Monsoon Flash Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRIN012
GLIDE n° FL-2013-000070-IND
Operation update n° 03
12 August 2013

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) 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 emergency response. 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.

Period covered for this update: 9
July - 6 August 2013

Summary: CHF 479,715 was allocated from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent's (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 23 June 2013 to support the National Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 5,000 families (25,000 beneficiaries).

This flood was the heaviest and deadliest in 80 years for the state of Uttarakhand. An estimated 500,000 people were affected, more than 6,000 people were found dead or missing. The individuals initially thought to be missing were actually later found to be dead.

Intermittent rainfall is still hampering the relief. Road networks are yet to be cleared and access to some mountainous areas is still a big challenge in this operation.

Despite all the challenges, Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS), with the support from IFRC, has installed six water treatment units in three districts to provide safe drinking water. Relief materials like blankets, tarpaulins, tents, kitchen sets, stoves, water buckets, sarees, dhoti, towels, mosquito nets, etc, have reached about 1,900 households in the four worst-hit districts through transportation by labour and animals. About 162 IRCS first medical responders (FMR) are working ceaselessly for the relief distribution.



Indian Red Cross Society volunteers distributing relief material to flood-affected people in Uttarakhand district. **Photo:** IRCS

Livelihoods have been badly impacted in affected villages and connectivity of these villages with outside is still at stake, requiring development of plans and strategies for short, medium and long-term support for recovery of livelihoods and services, and rehabilitation of infrastructure.

Partners who contributed to this DREF operation include Belgium Red Cross – Flanders/Belgium government, Canadian Red Cross/Canadian government, Japanese Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross/Netherlands government, Spanish Red Cross/government, Tsunami residual funds, and DG ECHO. Details of the contribution to the DREF can be found on www.ifrc.org/dref.

[<click here for the budget; here for contact details>](#)

The situation

Intermittent heavy rains are still hampering the relief work. Landslides have created blockages and breakdown of road and bridge systems, hindering the effectiveness of the relief work especially as heavy vehicles were not able to be used to transport and deliver relief items to some of the affected area.

Table 1: Extent of damage dated 20 July 2013 as reported by the state government:

Damage assessment	Key figures
Districts affected	13
Villages affected	1,603
Human lives lost	580
People injured	4,473
Missing persons	5,474
Livestock lost	9,470
Houses damaged	4,726
Cattle shed damaged	649
Pilgrims stranded at various places	All pilgrims have been evacuated
Persons rescued to safer places	108,653

Source: <http://www.ndmindia.nic.in>

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecasted rainfall at many places in Uttarakhand. The IMD is issuing special forecasts for the Char Dham region which can be accessed at: <http://amssdelhi.gov.in/chardham/chardham.html>

Coordination and partnerships

IRCS is providing relief and FMR support actions in coordination with the on-going rescue operations led by the Government of India and other agencies. The IRCS national headquarters is closely coordinating with the state branch in order to extend timely assistance to the people affected by floods in Uttarakhand. At the state and district level, coordination mechanisms have been established with the government and with other humanitarian agencies to ensure that resources and information can be shared efficiently.

Since the onset of the disaster, the Indian prime minister had announced an INR 10 billion (approximately CHF 148,539,000) aid package for Uttarakhand, which included the usage for emergency evacuation (airlifting) and recovery.

International response to this disaster has been positive, with the Japanese government pledging USD 200,000 (approximately CHF 188,000) towards the IFRC India country plan in response to the floods.

Other partners and donors that have contributed to the IFRC India country plan include the British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross and the Taiwan Red Cross Organization. Contributions to the DREF have been made by the Belgium Red Cross/government, Canadian Red Cross/government, DG-ECHO, Japanese Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross/government (AECID). The following partners have contributed bilateral to IRCS: Italian Red Cross, the Korean Embassy in India via Korean Red Cross, and Vodafone India Foundation.

To date, ICRC has donated 1,100 body bags which have been distributed to authorities in Uttarakhand.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (basic non-food items)	
Outcome: The immediate needs of 5,000 families (25,000 beneficiaries) are met through the distribution of non-food items.	
Outputs: 5,000 families (25,000 beneficiaries) received basic shelter and non-food items.	
Proposed Activities:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deployment of NDRT/NDWRT/SDRT/volunteers to conduct needs assessments, prepare lists of beneficiaries, and identify distribution points. • Mobilization of stocks from the regional warehouses – taking into consideration the destroyed infrastructure and difficult access. • Distribution of non-food items (5,000 family packs). • Distribution of 315 family tents. • Replenishment of the distributed stocks. • Regular monitoring and technical advice by IRCS national headquarters and IFRC. • Conduct Lessons Learnt workshop after the completion of the operation. 	

Progress towards outcomes:

During the reporting period more efforts are being put into intensify interventions in the worst affected districts viz. Uttarkashi, Chamoli, Rudraprayag, and Pithoragarh. Breakdown of distributed items are as follows:

Relief Materials Distributed as of 30-07-2013																	
Sl. No.	Till Date	District Name	Blankets	Tarpaulin	Buckets	Stoves	Kitchen Sets	Tents	Bed Sheets	Towels	Sarees	Gents Dhori	H. Lentrin	Mos. nets	Dari/Mat	No. of volunteers (FMR) working	No of Beneficiary Family
1	5/8/2013	Uttarkashi	1280	480	212	47	349	50	157	388	467	259	10			36	869
2	27/7/2013	Pithoragarh	154	85	134	63	125	142	120	174	163		12	88		46	161
3	15/7/2013	Chamoli	391	94	111	47	83	25	136	138	169	127	24	10		6	269
4	13/7/2013	Rudraprayag	950	450	550	100	430	62	1150	1050	1100	500	120	200	20	74	602
Total			2775	1109	1007	257	987	279	1563	1750	1899	886	166	298	20	162	1901

- In Uttarkashi and Pithoragarh districts, disaster preparedness (DP) supervisors were appointed and trained before the disaster struck. Additionally, in Rudraprayag district two DP supervisors and in Chamoli district one DP supervisor are being hired for the operation. These additional human resources are expected to assist the district branches for a smooth transition from emergency to recovery phase.
- Capacity building trainings are being organised for 30 FMR each in four districts on relief distribution, continuous assessment, logistics, and reporting.
- In view of the logistical challenges in delivering the relief materials to the remote areas, with support from IFRC, a logistics plan was developed for this operation:
 - IRCS has come up with a logistics plan of action to address logistics issues.
 - IRCS has identified eight locations where the field stores will be set up in a week's time.
 - Relief supplies will be moved to these stores from state and district branch warehouses.
 - From field warehouses relief supplies will be carried to the villages using porter services where it is not possible to reach by roads.
 - Eight IRCS staff from various health centres in Uttarakhand are being transferred to look after these eight field warehouses.
 - Eight national disaster response team (NDRT) members will be deployed to field stores to ensure proper procedures for warehousing and distribution of relief supplies are in place.
 - A local logistician is being contracted for three months to ensure efficient supply chain management.

- Replenishment of 5,000 family pack items:
 - Procurement order has been placed for the following items that are being.
 - o Gents *dhoti*.
 - o Ladies *sarees*.
 - o Towels.
 - o Bed sheet.
 - o Cotton blanket.
 - o Plastic bucket with lid.
 - The items are procured locally and target to be delivered within one month.
 - Other items such as 5,000 tarpaulin sheets and 5,000 mosquito nets which are procured through the Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in Kuala Lumpur have arrived in Kolkata port. Customs clearance in progress.
 - Kitchen sets procured by RLU are ready for delivery at Mumbai and expected to be delivered to IRCS Bahadurgarh warehouse using free rail facility in the next two weeks.
 - Replenishment has enabled the IRCS to restore reasonable stock level to tackle with the flooding now affecting other states in India.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: The risk of water and sanitation related diseases have been reduced through access to safe drinking water, appropriate sanitation and hygiene promotion.

Outputs:

- **Increased access to safe drinking water to the flood affected 3,000 people.**
- **Improve hygiene knowledge and behaviour of 15,000 people affected by the flood.**

- Detailed assessment to identify villages for intervention.
- Mobilize and installation of 1 water treatment unit in assessed location through NDWRT when conditions allow.
- Establishing water distribution system.
- Training volunteers on hygiene promotion.
- Hygiene promotion activities for affected community by the IRCS volunteers.
- Monitoring of use of household level water treatment and storage.

Progress towards outcome:

- On 11 July a team composing of a WASH coordinator from AP zone office and a health advisor from the regional office, along with NDWRT members and FMRs, carried out an assessment in Uttarkashi district. As part of the assessment, the team visited two villages (Didsari and Saror in Bhatwara block), two urban slums (Josiara and Balmiki Basti, Barhata), two relief camps (at GIC and DGIS) and one temporary shelter location (Vishal Bhavan, Joshiara, where they interacted with the Anganwadi worker (AWW), accredited social health activist (ASHA), auxiliary nurse midwife (ANM), women's groups and the local Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) members, groups of people most affected from the disaster, and people who have been resettled in the relief camps, etc.
- The team observed and was actively involved in distribution of relief materials and made a visit to the Uttarkashi district branch warehouse to understand the key quality measures undertaken to keep the materials safe and the recording mechanism. The assessment team interviewed a group of 10 FMR (nine male and one female) and had a detail discussion on the problems, the proposed solutions, the feasibility of the proposed action, the model of implementation and the actual resources required for undertaking those activities.
- Given the field level observation and recommendation of the assessment team, a plan of action has been made to address potential health risk through WASH intervention over a period of three months. In this plan of action more emphasis is given on household water treatment and basic water purification options, which will be implemented in mid-August.
- Two national disaster WatSan response team (NDWRT) members were deployed on 1 August 2013 for a period of about 15 days to monitor deployed water purification units.
- Three NORIT water treatment units have been set-up in Uttarkashi and Rudraprayag districts. Three hand pump water purification units have been set up and running Pithoragarh and Rudraprayag district. In total 10,445 people have been benefited with water supply from these water treatment units.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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



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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in 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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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 non-violence and peace.

Disaster Response Financial Report
MDRIN012 - India - Monsoon Flash Floods
 Timeframe: 24 Jun 13 to 24 Dec 13
 Appeal Launch Date: 24 Jun 13
 Annual Report

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2013/6	Programme	MDRIN012
Budget Timeframe	2013/6-12	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Funding

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
A. Budget		479,715				479,715	
B. Opening Balance		0				0	
Income							
Other Income							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		479,715				479,715	
C4. Other Income		479,715				479,715	
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)		479,715				479,715	
D. Total Funding = B +C		479,715				479,715	

* Funding source data based on information provided by the donor

II. Movement of Funds

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
B. Opening Balance		0				0	
C. Income		479,715				479,715	
E. Expenditure		-565				-565	
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		479,150				479,150	

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III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability		
	A					B	A - B	
BUDGET (C)			479,715			479,715		
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	119,700						119,700	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	6,267						6,267	
Other Supplies & Services	270,667						270,667	
Total Relief items, Construction, Sup	396,633						396,633	
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Storage	2,068						2,068	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	8,499						8,499	
Logistics Services	13,981						13,981	
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	24,548						24,548	
Personnel								
International Staff	11,500						11,500	
Volunteers	7,400						7,400	
Total Personnel	18,900						18,900	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	2,193						2,193	
Total Workshops & Training	2,193						2,193	
General Expenditure								
Travel	3,133		538			538	2,596	
Information & Public Relations	2,989						2,989	
Communications	157		8			8	149	
Financial Charges	376		0			0	376	
Other General Expenses	470						470	
Shared Office and Services Costs	1,037						1,037	
Total General Expenditure	8,162		546			546	7,616	
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			-15			-15	15	
Total Operational Provisions			-15			-15	15	
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recove	29,278		34			34	29,244	
Total Indirect Costs	29,278		34			34	29,244	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	479,715		565			565	479,150	
VARIANCE (C - D)			479,150			479,150		