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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° 4**  
**24 October 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:** 7 August to 23 October 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. Hundreds of villages across the western and central part of the state were hit by floods. The government has allocated INR 75 billion (approximately CHF 1.1 billion) for both recovery and rehabilitation.

Intermittent rainfall continues in the operation area but did not disrupt the operation as it had been in the earlier stage. However, road networks are still being restored and access to some mountainous areas remained a big challenge.

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 (i.e. blanket, tarpaulin, tent, kitchen set, stove, water bucket, saree, dhoti, towel, mosquito net) have been distributed to the most affected families.

Rail and road transport was badly affected in the state. The hilly terrain makes accessibility difficult for carrying out relief operations. Livelihoods were badly impacted in affected villages and connectivity of these villages with the outside is still a major problem, requiring development of plans and strategies for medium and long-term support for recovery of livelihoods and services, and rehabilitation of infrastructure.



Rameshwari Devi, one of the IRCS beneficiaries in Semi village in Guptkashi district, taking shelter in Red Cross tents spoke about the positive change Red Cross brought in her life after flash flood distress. **Photo:** IRCS.

Partners who have contributed to this DREF operation include Belgian Red Cross/Flanders/ Belgian government, Canadian Red Cross/ Canadian government, Japanese Red Cross Society, Netherlands Red Cross/ Netherlands government, Spanish Red Cross/ Spanish government, DG ECHO as well as allocation from Tsunami Residual Fund.

This operation is expected to be implemented over six months, and will therefore be completed by 31 December 2013; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 31 March 2014).

[<click here for contact details and here for interim financial>](#)

## The situation

The disastrous flooding in the Himalayan state of Uttarakhand this summer claimed more than 6,000 lives (including those who are reported missing). India's armed forces carried out the largest aerial search and rescue operation in the country's history. Air Force pilots had to fly more than 1,400 sorties<sup>1</sup>, rescuing more than 12,000 people.

In the early phase of operation, heavy rain falls made it difficult for IRCS to provide timely response to certain areas due to landslides which block and damaged road and bridge systems. Heavy vehicles were not able access and deliver relief items to some of the affected area.

Four months after the floods, tens of thousands of residents of towns and villages affected are facing the dire aftermath of homelessness and unemployment, including those 20,000 residents working directly in tourist towns in the flooded districts of Uttarkashi, Tehri, Garhwal, Rudraprayag and Chamoli district, and many villages surrounding them. Aside from response and early recovery, there is a greater need to advocate for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in development planning.

## Coordination and partnerships

IRCS has been providing relief and First Medical Responders (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. 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.

International response to this disaster has been positive, as the previous update also mentioned; the Japanese government had pledged USD 200,000 (approximately CHF 188,000) towards the IFRC India country plan in response to the floods. Other partners and donors included the British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross and the Taiwan Red Cross Organization. The following partners have contributed bilaterally 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 for use in Uttarakhand.

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<sup>1</sup> A sortie is a deployment or dispatch of one military unit, be it an aircraft, ship, or troops from a strongpoint. The sortie, whether by one or more aircraft or vessels, usually has a specific mission.

# Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Indian Red Cross Society Uttarakhand State branch has established their monitoring mechanism to oversee the progress of relief operation. Senior officials of the state branch are regularly visiting affected district to follow up on implementation of the activities.

## Progress towards outcomes

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

### Progress towards outcomes:<sup>2</sup>

During the reporting period, effort was placed on the distribution of NFIs, largely in Chamoli and Rudraprayag districts.

**Table 1: Summary of relief distribution in the target districts as of 23 October 2013<sup>3</sup>**

Sr. No.	District Name	No. of FMRs	Blanket	Tarpaulin	Bucket	Stove	Kitchen Set	Tent	Bed Sheet	Towel	Ladies' Saree	Gents' Dhoti	Household Latrine	Mosquito Net	Dari/Mat	No. of beneficiary families
1	Uttarkashi	36	1,152	630	351	47	404	52	194	386	557	216	28	0	0	1,101
2	Pithoragarh	46	154	85	141	63	125	142	137	174	178		12	88		340
3	Chamoli	6	1,005	249	224	91	168	27	260	160	339	127	24	13	0	497
4	Rudraprayag	74	1,200	450	700	500	350	205	930	700	800	500	384	400	150	850
5	Bageshwar	0	30	15	15	0	15	0	30	30	0	15	0	15	0	15
	Total	162	3,541	1,429	1,431	701	1,062	426	1,551	1,450	1,874	858	448	516	150	2,803

- Of the 1,000 tents delivered from IRCS NHQ to respective state branches, 426 tents have been distributed in the five target districts. The planned 315 tents under this appeal have been distributed and utilized by the affected families. The replenishment of the tents is still in progress.
- 55 trucks were hired by IRCS Uttarakhand state branch to send relief supplies to districts. FMRs.
- Eight small temporary field ware-stores have been set up by local Red Cross branches as key logistics spots to relay the goods to mountainous areas. These ware-stores are being managed by 35 First Medical Responders.

<sup>2</sup> The expenditure for Logistics, Transport & Storage has yet to be booked and will be reflected in the next report.

<sup>3</sup> There are minor changes to some figures presented in Table 1 as compared to the same table presented in [DREF Operation Update no. 3](#), particularly for Uttarkashi district (i.e. blanket, towel, gent's dhoti) and Rudraprayag district (kitchen set, bed sheet, towel, saree). The discrepancies were identified after thorough due verification and reporting process, which is now revised with validation based on the beneficiary lists.

- Furthermore, to ensure relief items could reach the hands of affected families in areas where access are difficult, local porters have been hired to transport these relief supplies by hand to the hard-- to ensure are provided to the most vulnerable and remote affected population.
- The NDRT members who were on stand-by at the onset of the disaster were not deployed to the field as planned.
- Procurement of NFIs has been carried out locally and delivered to the IRCS warehouses. This was in quantity of 5,000 which included gents' dhoti, ladies' saree, towel, bed sheet, cotton blanket, and plastic bucket with lid.
- The consignment of 5,000 tarpaulins sheets and 5,000 mosquito nets received from the Zone Logistic Unit (ZLU) in Kuala Lumpur has been cleared from customs and delivered to IRCS Kolkata warehouse.
- Kitchen sets procured by ZLU have been delivered to IRCS Bahadurgarh warehouse using free rail facility.
- Replenishment has enabled the IRCS to restore reasonable stock level for disaster preparedness. The sufficient replenishment was especially useful during recent flooding in other states in India.



IRCS First Medical Responders distributed relief materials in Dummar of Munsiyari district. **Photo:** IRCS.

### 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 one 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:<sup>4</sup>**

- In Rudraprayag district, two NORIT water treatment units are still working for the flood affected communities.
- The NORIT<sup>5</sup> water treatment unit installed at Uttarkashi has completed its mission and is now re-deployed to the Cyclone Phailin affected area in Odisha state.
- In Pithoragarh, two hand operated water purification units are still serving the affected population. Meanwhile one other hand operated water purification unit is working in the town of Kedarnath in Rudraprayag district.
- The water, sanitation and hygiene promotion (WASH) plan is currently being discussed. Implementation of the WASH activities will commence upon approval of the plan by IRCS.

<sup>4</sup> The expenditure for Water, Sanitation & Hygiene has yet to be booked and will be reflected in the next financial.

<sup>5</sup> NORIT is a portable water purification system capable of producing 2,000 litres per hour of safe drinking water from fresh water sources (wells, lakes, ponds, rivers or floodwaters). This provides safe drinking water to approx. 3,000 people each day.

## Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

### Indian Red Cross Society:

- Dr. S.P. Agarwal, Secretary General, phone: +91 11 2371 6441; email: [spagarwal@g@indianredcross.org](mailto:spagarwal@g@indianredcross.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.



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

Interim Report

#### Selected Parameters

Reporting Timeframe	2013/6-2013/12	Programme	MDRIN012
Budget Timeframe	2013/6-2013/12	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
<b>A. Budget</b>		479,715				479,715	
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>		0				0	
<b>Income</b>							
<u>Other Income</u>							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		479,715				479,715	
<b>C4. Other Income</b>		479,715				479,715	
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)</b>		479,715				479,715	
<b>D. Total Funding = B +C</b>		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>B. Opening Balance</b>		0				0	
<b>C. Income</b>		479,715				479,715	
<b>E. Expenditure</b>		-158,186				-158,186	
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>		321,529				321,529	

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## III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Expenditure						TOTAL	Variance
	Budget	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	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>			<b>479,715</b>			<b>479,715</b>		
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>								
Shelter - Relief	119,700		61,300			61,300	58,400	
Clothing & Textiles			41,233			41,233	-41,233	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	6,267						6,267	
Other Supplies & Services	270,667						270,667	
<b>Total Relief items, Construction, Sup</b>	<b>396,633</b>		<b>102,533</b>			<b>102,533</b>	<b>294,101</b>	
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Storage	2,068		139			139	1,929	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	8,499						8,499	
Logistics Services	13,981		5,518			5,518	8,462	
<b>Total Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>24,548</b>		<b>5,658</b>			<b>5,658</b>	<b>18,890</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>								
International Staff	11,500		7,657			7,657	3,843	
Volunteers	7,400						7,400	
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>18,900</b>		<b>7,657</b>			<b>7,657</b>	<b>11,243</b>	
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	2,193						2,193	
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>2,193</b>						<b>2,193</b>	
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	3,133		8,236			8,236	-5,103	
Information & Public Relations	2,989		167			167	2,823	
Office Costs			0			0	0	
Communications	157		115			115	41	
Financial Charges	376		860			860	-484	
Other General Expenses	470						470	
Shared Office and Services Costs	1,037		1,099			1,099	-62	
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>8,162</b>		<b>10,478</b>			<b>10,478</b>	<b>-2,315</b>	
<b>Operational Provisions</b>								
Operational Provisions			22,207			22,207	-22,207	
<b>Total Operational Provisions</b>			<b>22,207</b>			<b>22,207</b>	<b>-22,207</b>	
<b>Indirect Costs</b>								
Programme & Services Support Recover	29,278		9,655			9,655	19,624	
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>	<b>29,278</b>		<b>9,655</b>			<b>9,655</b>	<b>19,624</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>479,715</b>		<b>158,186</b>			<b>158,186</b>	<b>321,529</b>	
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>			<b>321,529</b>			<b>321,529</b>		