

# OPERATIONS UPDATE



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

## **INDIA FLOODS 2001**

23 October 2001

*Appeal No. 21/2001*

*Launched on 25.07.01 for CHF 1,220,225 for three months.*

*DREF Allocated: CHF 0*

*Beneficiaries: 156,000*

*Operations Update No. 5 Period covered: 4 September to 14 October (last Ops Update issued: 14 September 2001); Next Ops Update No. 6 expected: November 2001*

### *“At a Glance”*

*Appeal coverage: 110.5%*

*Related Appeals: 01.33/01 South Asia regional programmes; 01.36/01 India*

*Outstanding needs: Covered*

*The Disaster/Situation: Donor response has been excellent and the relief operation, spearheaded by the Orissa State branch of the Indian Red Cross Society, has been effective in bringing widespread assistance - in terms of shelter, health and nutrition - to tens of thousands of vulnerable people. Operational reviews are being held to improve future effectiveness in the event of other emergencies.*

### **Operational Developments:**

#### ***Bihar State***

Within the financial framework of the emergency appeal the number of beneficiaries for the Bihar operation will be increased from 10,000 to 14,000 to meet growing needs. The acquisition of relief goods will be done within the ongoing procurement process. The Operational Budget and Plan of Action for the Bihar branch will be revised to reflect these changes. The distribution of relief items will take place in the next two weeks.

#### ***Orissa State***

Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) and Federation relief distributions to 14,000 families were completed on 6 October. Federation relief and health delegates completed their missions and, with the exception of planned distributions of kitchen sets to schools during the second half of October, all relief activities have been closed. A review of the flood operations was held on 10 October at the Orissa State branch (OSB). The meeting was

attended by the IRCS-OSB honorary secretary, relief coordinators for the Spanish Red Cross, representatives of local government, OSB health and logistics teams, mobile medical teams as well as Federation relief, health, reporting and disaster response delegates.

## **Government Response:**

### ***Bihar***

The Government of Bihar has conducted a comprehensive relief operation in response to flooding. The government is currently operating 314 relief centres and 227 health centres. Relief distributions include: 29,090 quintals (100 kilogrammes) flour; 88,419 boxes of matches; 170,958 candles; and 98,000 litres of kerosene.

### ***Orissa***

Government relief distributions, consisting of food, were completed in August. No large scale Government assistance occurred during September and October. The Orissa State Disaster Mitigation Authority (OSDMA) assessment is complete. A copy of their report has been sent to IRCS headquarters and the Federation India Operations Centre, Delhi.

## **NGO Response/Coordination Issues**

### ***Orissa***

The Red Cross is represented at the OSDMA meetings by the honorary secretary of IRCS OSB. The get togethers have avoided duplication of efforts. NGOs who chose to operate in areas closer to Bhubaneswar are in the later stages of their relief distributions, as access has been relatively easy. A number of agencies, including the Spanish Red Cross (SRC) are planning for a range of rehabilitation projects, such as rebuilding, food security and income generation.

## **Red Cross Red Crescent action w**

### ***Bihar***

Family packages will contain 20 kilos of flat rice, two sarees and one doti, which have been procured locally and are currently being inspected by an independent agency prior to distribution. In addition, beneficiaries will receive candles and matches donated locally as well as sisal rope and tarpaulins donated by the American Red Cross.

### ***Orissa***

#### **7-25 July**

During the first week of July the OSB was put on notice about severe flooding because of high rainfall. The IRCS cooperated with the government and the armed forces to prepare dry food packages - provided by the government - for 10,000 families which were then dropped by the air force to isolated communities. This was followed by provision of relief materials for 2,000 flood-affected families.

By the close of July, the IRCS had provided emergency relief to 18,728 families in the following districts; Puri (5,521), Jagatsinghpur (2,017), Kendrapara (3,700), Kalahandi (2,400), Nayagarh (1,000), Jajpur (1,000) and Cuttack (3,000) districts.

#### **25 July - 6 October**

Following a request from the IRCS, the Federation issued a request for assistance on 25 July seeking CHF 1,220,225 in cash and kind to assist 156,000 people (26,000 families) in Orissa over three months. The Federation and SRC supported the IRCS operation through a joint effort.

The request for assistance anticipated further flooding (as it was the start of the flooding season) and was directed at covering additional areas outside of Orissa. Subsequent to the Appeal, flooding in Bihar led the Federation, in cooperation with the Bihar branch, to initiate a relief operation there.

OSB, in cooperation with the Federation, initiated a programme to provide relief items to 11,000 families at the end of July. At the same time the SRC, which had ongoing projects in Orissa, worked with the IRCS, and OSB youth volunteers to distribute ECHO-funded relief items to 16,675 beneficiaries in the Puri district.

By the last week of July, there was an outpouring of humanitarian aid from local NGOs and international aid agencies in response to the floods. At the time, however, due to the capacity of the majority of the organisations working in the area, relief aid was only being distributed to those districts closest to the state capital Bhubaneswar. The IRCS, the Federation and SRC taking into consideration their broader capacity to coordinate vehicles and staff elected to target areas that were more difficult to reach. This decision was applauded by NGOs and government departments. IRCS, the Federation and SRC committed to help those most in need and to overcome a challenging operation to deliver relief and health items.

Throughout July and August, the areas identified - Jajpur and Puri Districts - were subjected to continuous flooding, which caused increased hardship in rural areas.

The distribution of IRCS/Federation relief packages, including health promotion packages in Jajpur district, began on 20 August 2001. OSB, in cooperation with the Federation, distributed relief packages of food and non food throughout the 16 Gram Panchayats in Bari block, reaching 14,000 families. This exceeded the original target of 11,000.

SRC commenced its distribution of ECHO-funded relief packages in Puri district on the same date. SRC, with the participation of OSB, distributed ECHO-funded relief items to 16,475 families in Brahmagiri, Kakatpur, Kanas, Gop and Satyabadi Blocks in Puri District.

Good cooperation between the IRCS headquarters and OSB, SRC and the Federation, enabled the Movement to respond to the floods with relief and health goods as well as maintain the quality of on-going projects of the local branch.

## **Relief distributions w**

### ***Orissa***

*Objective 1: To distribute emergency rations, BP5 high-energy biscuits, to marooned and unassisted communities by early August.*

The first two weeks of Red Cross distributions in July were managed independently by OSB in coordination with the IRCS headquarters.

On 13 July, 258 families living in the Puri district's Kanas block were provided with plastic sheeting; high calorie biscuits, water purification tablets; clothing; candles and match boxes.

The next relief distribution took place in the western district of Kalhnadi on 16 July reaching 870 villages in 13 affected blocks. The state branch supplied 2,500 plastic sheets, 2,400 dhotis and sarees, 5,100 oral rehydration solution packets and 48,000 water purification tablets.

On 19 July the district Red Cross branch in Puri provided 500 tarpaulins, 600 dhotis, 600 sarees and 50 cartons of emergency rations. The following day, cooked mixed rice, bread, 200gm of sugar, 100gm of salt, candles, match boxes, water purification tablets and five packages of oral rehydration salts were distributed to 1,000 families in Kantilo in Khandapar block of the Nayagarh district. In addition, on 25 July SRC supported OSB to provide 750 families with emergency relief packages.

IRCS headquarters provided: 410 tents; five motor boats; 15 rubber boats; 330 rolls of plastic sheeting (8 x 485m); 5 rolls of plastic sheeting ((30.5 m x 7.32 m); 2,000 blankets; 500 towels; 12 metric tonnes of BP5 high energy biscuits (donated by the Danish Red Cross); 520 tarpaulins; and, 1,030 articles of clothing.

The IRCS, with the assistance of the Federation, transported 24,000 packages of emergency rations (donated by the Danish Red Cross) from the disaster preparedness warehouse in Gujarat for distribution.

*Objective 2: To provide 11,000 families with relief packages.*

The funding allocated to the relief programme allowed for an increase in the number of families which could be helped. The original target of 11,000 families was increased to 14,000. Families are estimated to be four or five-strong. The majority selected for relief aid live in villages and rely on paddy rice farming.

At the end of July IRCS transferred funds to OSB to locally procure outstanding items for relief packages. Family packages contained: clothing, candles, matches, rice, dahl, oil and salt, oral rehydration salts, soap and water purification tablets. OSB volunteers delivered these packages to heavily-flooded areas using boats, bullock and cart, four wheel drives and other means.

The IRCS and the Federation developed a selection criteria and rationale for assistance. All items which could be procured in accordance with Sphere standards were done so in a transparent manner. A procurement committee - comprising representatives of OSB and headquarters, and the Federation relief delegate - was formed. Items such as mosquito nets, not covered by Sphere, were matched in quality to mosquito nets purchased by the branch for previous operations.

The targeting procedure went through several steps:

#### **1. IRCS/ Federation decision to target Bari Block, Jajpur District**

Initial relief distributions from local NGOs and international aid agencies took place in Jagatsinghpur district's Birdi block and the Banki block in the Cuttack district. These areas are relatively close to Orissa's capital Bhubaneswar and road access was still available.

The IRCS and the Federation, and SRC had also proposed to distribute relief in these areas as well. Block coordination meetings for Birdi and Banki, however, held during the first week of August, revealed that there were extensive overlaps between the Red Cross, Concern and a number of local NGOs. In addition, it became clear that other agencies had a different, and more extensive relief package to distribute, and longer term rehabilitation plans for those Blocks. It was also thought by IRCS, the Federation and SRC that needs in other areas were greater. Outlying areas requiring were not receiving aid because they were logistically too difficult for the other agencies.

An emergency meeting was held between OSB and the Federation in Bhubaneswar, to discuss coordination and the possibility of changing the project location. It was felt that needs in Bari Block, Jajpur District, were greater than those in blocks in other districts. Bari Block is surrounded by two rivers. The two rivers overflowed so that the entire block was flooded. The area could only be reached by boat. There was also extensive damage to houses and farmland. The capacity of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement to respond to the situation in Jajpur district is better than most NGOs, and the proposed relief and health projects were equally, if not more appropriate, to the Bari block compared to Banki and Biridi.

It was decided by OSB and the Federation, that the Red Cross should relocate its efforts by working only in Jajpur District, eliminating any previous duplication. This allowed other NGOs to be effective in Biridi and Banki Blocks. As before, the relief and health projects were implemented in the same areas, to efficiently use logistical and personnel capacity.

Meetings were held with Concern and local NGOs, to explain the Red Cross decision. The OSB honorary secretary attended the OSDMA meeting and explained the situation and urged other NGOs intending to work in Jajpur to coordinate with the Red Cross in Bhubaneswar.

## **2. Targeting of Bari Block (Jajpur district)**

This was based on:

- Flood damage.
- Absence of other international and local NGOs.
- IRCS volunteer capacity.

## **3. Targeting of Gran Panchayats (clusters of villages) within Bari Block**

This was based on;

- Location; in between the two flooding rivers, low lying areas.
- Flooding damage to houses, public buildings, farmland.
- Size of caseload; maximum 14,000 families.

## **4. Targeting villages within Gran Panchayats (GP)**

- All villages within selected GPs are affected and therefore targeted.

## **5. Targeting families within villages.**

- All families in villages are affected and therefore targeted.
- Distribution lists from Block Development Office (BDO) in Bari.
- IRCS distribution cards were given before distribution.

## **6. Targeting additional GPs inside Bari Block, but outside original proposed project area (between the two rivers).**

After receiving detailed distribution lists from each GP, it was found that the number of families was only 10,500. Therefore, it was decided that a number of extra GPs should be targeted to increase the caseload to the 14,000 maximum. The extra GPs were chosen by OSB and the Federation, in consultation with the BDO in Bari. They are; Attira, Bainsiria, and Kimbiriapal.

The relief package for a total caseload of 14,000 families was:

- 15kg Rice
- 2.5kg Dal
- 1 litre Oil
- 0.5kg Salt
- 1 packet BP5 high energy biscuits
- 1 tarpaulin
- 1 sarhee
- 1 doti

Distributions of the packages comprised of the listed items began during the third week of August and concluded on 6 October. Size and location of distributions are detailed in the table below.

<b>Date of Distribution</b>	<b>Gram Panchayat</b>	<b>No. Of Packages distributed</b>
20 August	Attira	990
23-24 August	Bainsiria	1'070
26-27 August	Kimbhiriapal	990
29-30 August	Amathpur	750
31 August	Gamu	630
4-6 September	Ratnagiri	1'200
7 September	Mahakalpada	600
10-11 September	Serepur	940
12-13 September	Mandari	770

14 September	Ishanpur	580
15-16 September	Swainkhanda	900
18-19 September	Balia	930
20-21 September	Dharpur	960
22-23 September	Sahupada	1'000
25-26 September	Chandanpur	910
6 October	Golkund	610
	Ratnagari	40
Total	17 Gran Panchayats	14,000 families

Relief distributions were monitored and supervised by IRCS volunteers and Federation delegates. The names of beneficiaries from Bari block have been entered into a database so that processing information is speeded up in the event of future distributions. In addition, the branch now has a baseline data for future assessments and a list has been prepared for the government. Prior to each distribution, volunteers distributed yellow cards to beneficiaries containing their personal information. Each beneficiary was assigned a number by the Red Cross and this was printed on their card. Stickers, with the numbers, were printed with the cards and used to keep track of who received packages to speed up administration in the field. Information about the IRCS printed in Oriya was circulated in addition to the packages. Fifty lifetime members were recruited by the IRCS during the distribution process. Relief materials were well received by the communities, the OSB received letters of appreciation from various government officials and individuals.

The American Red Cross (ARC) donated 4,500 tarpaulins, 2,250 kitchen sets, and, 2,250 buckets. The ARC tarpaulins will be included in the main relief package distribution to 14,000 families. A separate distribution of kitchen sets, buckets and water purification tablets was completed to schools and anganwadis in Orissa State in areas that were affected by the recent flooding.

The Japanese Consul in Calcutta donated funds earmarked to buy saris, dotis and water purification tablets.

Taking into account the American Red Cross and Japanese Consul donations, the relief package was enhanced with clothes (one sari and one doti per family); and, the American Red Cross tarps were used in the main relief package distribution to 14,000 families.

A separate distribution of kitchen sets, buckets and water purification tablets is planned for schools and anganwadis in Orissa State in areas that were affected by the recent flooding. The locations are still to be determined. Detailed distribution figures and locations for American Red Cross kitchen sets and buckets will be provided at the end of October.

In total, distributions of relief items to 14,000 families occurred over seven weeks. Procurement was not optimum. The order came through slowly with rice arriving in too many shipments. It is felt that the volume of distributions could be increased. However, there was a bottle neck at management/supervisor level. It is recommended that additional management/coordination capacity is created at OSB level to manage a potential higher caseload.

*Objective 3: To prepare for a potential response to floods in other states.*

### **Bihar State**

Following assessments in the middle of August by the IRCS and the Federation it was decided that it would be appropriate to distribute relief in Bihar state where flooding was reported to have affected one million people.

### **Water and Sanitation w**

*Objective 1: To provide water purification tablets for 26,000 families and other affected communities.*

The Federation, IRCS and SRC collaborated to provide water purification tablets to beneficiaries in Puri and Bari blocks. The combined caseload increased to 30,475 families for the relief and health packages: IRCS/Federation dealing with 14,000 families, and SRC 16,475 families. Six million water purification tablets

arrived on 3 August from the IRCS stock in Bhuj, and were repackaged in Bhubaneswar for distribution under a pharmacist's supervision. One million were distributed in relief packages with each family receiving a minimum of 124 tablets, enough for one month. Two million were given to other agencies providing flood relief in Orissa. The remaining three million were stocked.

Two mobile water purification units were deployed in Puri District, and utilised, by AKSS, a local NGO operating out of Kanas, and CARE. Once floods receded and water wells were decontaminated, the units were withdrawn, serviced and made ready for redeployment.

A shipment of 1,050,000 water purification tablets was sent to the Orissa Disaster Mitigation Project (ODMP) for use by communities affected by the flood.

The two mobile water purification units deployed in Puri District have been returned to Bhubaneswar for servicing and made ready for deployment elsewhere.

## **Health w**

*Objective 1: To assess the current and future health risks to the affected population and implement appropriate action.*

- **Orissa**

At the end of July, representatives of the IRCS and the Federation conducted a medical assessment of Bari block and parts of Puri block. One of the largest health risks was inadequate access to medical facilities. Bari block comprises 16 Gram Panchayats, however, the entire area is serviced by two primary health care centres. In addition, doctors and medical staff are reluctant to work full time in isolated areas. Poor roads and long distances present additional barriers to those seeking medical aid. Consequently the OSB in cooperation with the Federation formed two mobile medical teams to provide health care to flood-affected villages. Each mobile medical team comprised two doctors, two pharmacists and one volunteer. The teams began working on 13 August. They travelled to a different GP every day. Beneficiaries were registered by a volunteer and issued a token to receive necessary prescriptions. Patients were then seen by a doctor after which they would pick up a prescription if needed.

- ***Donation of Cholera Kits, and Anti-Snake Bite Venom Vials***

The IRCS formally presented the State Minister for Health with two cholera kits on 9 August at the state branch headquarters. Anti-snake bite venom vials were also provided to the Directorate of Health by the IRCS. The IRCS also supplied four cholera kits from the Gujarat earthquake operations in Bhuj.

- ***Donation of Health Kits***

Four new emergency health kits (NEHKs) were donated by the IRCS from the Gujarat earthquake operation in Bhuj to the Orissa floods operation. Materials from the two remaining NEHKs were donated to Red Cross dispensaries in Kendrapara district, Koraput district, Bhadrak district and Mayunbhanj as well as to the hospital in Bramaphur. These dispensaries have been non-functional since the floods due to the spoiling of supplies.

The SRC is planning to donate one NEHK to a flood-affected dispensary in Puri block when their health programme commences in Puri in October.

- ***Mobile Medical Teams***

The two IRCS mobile medical teams worked on alternating days, with clinics held six days per week. Two doctors, two pharmacists and one St. John's Ambulance volunteer attend each clinic. Flooding to Bari block's major roads delayed the start date for the mobile medical teams.

SRC plans to implement a similar programme in Puri district in October, using two medical teams. Ideally, the current IRCS teams, who will complete their programme in Jajpur at the end of September, would continue their activities in Puri.

During the second week of August the mobile teams accessed the interior of Bari block after the water receded and the road to Ratnagiri reopened.

Although there was concern over an increase of waterborne diseases, the general health of those in Bari block was not alarming. Many complaints were indicative of the chronic poor health of rural communities, rather than flood-induced illness. Because the areas have poor access to primary health centres, the IRCS health camps were well attended, with 300-500 patients seen each day. In total the mobile medical team held 41 camps and treated 12,271 patients. In some areas of Bari block where government emergency health teams were working assistance from the IRCS medical team was requested by the government team as they were overwhelmed by patient numbers, and their supply of medications was limited.

The most common illnesses were acute respiratory infections and skin infections. Less than 10% of patients had diarrhoea and approximately 2% of patients had suspected malaria. The SRC intends to implement a similar programme of two mobile medical teams in Puri district in October.

The capacity of the mobile medical teams is approximately 400 patients per day, which can be increased if the need arises by hiring additional teams. There is evidence that people travelled to neighbouring villages to receive treatment (drugs) twice. It is recommended that more coordination is needed so that more beneficiaries are reached.

#### •*IRCS OSB/Federation Dispensary*

A dispensary has been established at the OSB headquarters to service the mobile medical teams. In addition to the NEHKs, additional drug items have been procured. Stock is monitored by the team's pharmacists, who replenish the mobile medical kits after every clinic trip. The IRCS donated additional medications from the Bhuj warehouse; surplus stock following the earthquake relief operation.

A Federation health representative is working with pharmacists from the state branch on coordinating the inventory of stock. Remaining medicines are being packed in kits and stored with the Orissa state headquarters to be used in future emergencies.

#### **Total Drugs Used in MMU**

Two NEHKs were used by mobile medical teams.

#### **Health Promotion:**

The health promotion teams distributed (side by side with the general relief distribution) health packages consisting of oral rehydration salts (ORS) sachets, chlorine tablets and soap. Information regarding the use of these was provided verbally and in written form at the time of distribution. Health awareness materials (in Oriya) were printed and packed into the health packages. Team members were St. John's Ambulance volunteers.

Health promotion packages for 14,000 families included:

- 10 small packets ORS
- 124 (minimum) water purification tablets
- 2 single mosquito nets
- 2 bars of soap

The health promotion items were hand packed in plastic bags, printed with the IRCS OSB emblem, with the help of Youth/Junior Red Cross volunteers in OSB.

#### **Disaster Preparedness:**

A good opportunity exists now for the OSB to build the medical capacity of the local Red Cross in health disaster preparedness. Should a need arise in the future for medical assessments or clinics, a similar team could be mobilised. The Federation health delegate in Orissa completed written guidelines for the establishment of the teams and a central pharmacy in an emergency.

During the two months while working in the field, the medical teams were also active in recruiting new Red Cross members, and volunteers who could participate in disaster preparedness and first aid training. Volunteers who have assisted with medical clinics would be ideal people to invite for further training, and this would increase the capacity of the Jajpur Branch.

## **Logistics w**

*Objective 1: To provide transportation for volunteers and delegates working in affected regions.*

### **•Orissa**

The Federation fleet manager from Bhuj was temporarily seconded to Orissa to review the logistical capacity of the OSB. Activities included a project site assessment and a one-day training exercise for warehouse personnel.

The number of Red Cross volunteers at each distribution was increased to supervise the transportation of relief and health items by local transport. (Trucks were only able to reach the point in the road that the flood waters have damaged).

Boats donated by IRCS headquarters to the Orissa State Government used during the early stages of the flooding to rescue stranded villagers, were placed on standby for use in the relief/health distributions. Fortunately, the flood waters receded and boats were not used in Bari Block. Local bullock carts were used to assist with the distributions.

*Objective 2: To transport relief goods to Orissa from IRCS warehouses and local and international suppliers.*

A logistics management committee was formed by OSB for the three months flood relief operation.

A review of the logistical capacity of OSB was initially completed, along with a one-day training exercise for warehousing personnel. OSB underwent a procurement, warehousing and transport self assessment survey. This led to one day of training on warehousing and transport systems and procedures.

A Rubb-hall was brought from Bhuj to Orissa and erected in the grounds of the OSB compound. As part of this process, OSB members were instructed on construction, to enable them to respond quickly for another emergency. The Rubb-hall will remain in Orissa as part of the disaster preparedness equipment stock.

Warehouse management and warehousing knowledge was identified as a weak point in the operation. All 'logistics' was dependent on one person. Warehousing problems were dealt with in an ad hoc manner. It is recommended that the OSB have more trained people to oversee warehousing. The idea of mobile emergency warehousing can be developed as there are two Rubb halls on hand, as opposed to acquiring further permanent structures. Warehouse management/stock keeping should be improved by giving formal training to the OSB warehouse manager. The Federation's disaster preparedness/logistics delegate should be tasked for this.

## **Telecommunications w**

*Objective 1: To provide telecom equipment and support to Red Cross volunteers and staff working in the field.*

### **•Orissa**

A Federation telecommunications delegate installed a VHF repeater in Bari Town. This gave the mobile medical teams and the relief distribution teams a 20km radius coverage for VHF handsets for use in coordinating the complex logistical operation.

A satellite phone was made available to the IRCS relief coordinator in Bari Block for communication with Bhubaneswar. Communications equipment training was given to the MMUs and relief teams in the field.

No serious communication problems were encountered, however some time elapsed until radio communication systems were operational. It is recommended to establish a minimum VHF communication system in Orissa on standby, with involvement of the Federation's disaster preparedness and telecom delegates.

### **National Society Capacity Building w**

*Objective 1: To strengthen the disaster relief and preparedness in national headquarters and state branches in regions affected by the floods.*

The Orissa Disaster Mitigation Project (ODMP), a joint OSB and German Red Cross project has an operational focus on cyclone preparedness in coastal areas. Using the same contingency planning as the ODMP, the OSB, SRC and the Federation have begun gathering information regarding flood-related issues. A pilot study/survey in areas where relief and health projects are operational in Jajpur and Puri District. It is important that this initiative is complimentary to the ODMP, and information is shared between the IRCS, sister societies and the Federation.

Red Cross volunteers with MMUs, and relief distributions will use a questionnaire to gather information covering three specific issues: 1) risk and vulnerability assessment/profile; 2) resources availability; and, 3) early warning systems

OSB and the Federation will initiate a joint capacity review in relation to flood response to cover the following: 1) material resources and hardware; 2) financial and human resources; 3) training; 4) organisational structures; 5) information; 6) advocacy; 7) international links; 8) contingency and disaster preparedness plans and procedures; 9) coordination and management; 10) rehearsals and run throughs: and, 11) policies and standards.

The information from both exercises will be used in a number of ways:

- India (Orissa) floods 2001 operational review (IRCS/Federation), scheduled for late September.
- OSB and SRC/ECHO reporting and review.
- Develop strategies for disaster (flood) preparedness planning.
- Highlight areas for improvement in longer term OSB disaster preparedness programme.

*Objective 2: To develop capacity of IRCS in disaster relief operations*

The OSB has experience in large relief distributions from the 1999 super cyclone, and has all necessary and appropriate procedures and mechanisms in place to handle procurement, logistics and distribution. The role of the Federation field delegates was to streamline activities to improve efficiency and speed, and also to provide training and monitor the use of extra logistical and communication capacity.

New staff members were recruited by OSB to implement the flood relief operation. Coordinators for relief, mobile medical teams, a health promotion coordinator, two warehouse managers, field block coordinators and other support staff were recruited as required.

Lack of human resources was identified as the main overall limiting factor. The performance in basically all fields could be improved with better human resources. OSB depends strongly on volunteers at all organisational levels. More functions could be filled by full-time professional staff. Financial sustainability is the main issue to be addressed.

In addition, the volunteer base needs to be strengthened. More training to be provided to increase the skills of the volunteers with a focus on specialisation. Work needs to be done towards developing a stronger human resource base, especially at the middle management and supervisor level.

### **Coordination**

The Red Cross was, and continues to be, represented at the regular State level OSDMA meetings by the honorary secretary of OSB. These meetings were weekly but are now less frequent as potential duplication and crossover of NGOs has been minimised.

## Monitoring and Evaluation

An end of operation review was held on 10 October at OSB headquarters. The review allowed those involved to share experiences. Following the workshop a smaller working group, comprised of representatives of OSB, the Federation, and the SRC met to draw up recommendations for future operations.

*For further details please contact: Tatjana Tasic, Phone : 41 22 730 4320; Fax: 41 22 733 03 95; email: Tasic@ifrc.org*

*Donors providing in-kind relief in response to large-scale emergencies are urged to contact Birgitte Stalder-Olsen on 41 22 730 4245 in the Federation's Logistics and Resource Mobilization Department to avoid any unnecessary delays in the clearance and delivery of emergency relief assistance.*

*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.*

*This operation seeks to administer to the immediate requirements of the victims of this disaster. Subsequent operations to promote sustainable development or longer-term capacity building will require additional support, and these programmes are outlined on the Federation's website.*

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

Peter Rees-Gildea  
Head a.i.  
Relationship Management Department

Hiroshi Higashiura  
Head  
Asia Pacific Department

Request for assistance - India floods 2001						ANNEX 1
No.21 /2001		PLEDGES RECEIVED				17.10.2001
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
<b>CASH</b>						<b>TOTAL COVERAGE</b>
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				<b>1'220'225</b>		<b>110.5%</b>
Reallocations				601'145	31.07.2001	
FINNISH - RC		42'047	EUR	63'554	26.07.2001	
FRENCH - RC		200'000	EUR	302'300	01.08.2001	
JAPANESE - RC				61'000	12.02.2258	
LIECHTENSTEIN - RC				10'000	01.08.2001	
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		1'500'000	NOK	285'098	25.07.2001	
PRIVATE ON LINE				169	11.09.2001	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				1'323'266	CHF	108.4%
<b>KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)</b>						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
Germany	Delegate(s)			11'006		
Great Britain	Delegate(s)			14'456		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				25'462	CHF	2.1%