

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

CAMBODIA FLOODS

29 November 2001

Appeal No. 29/01

Launched on 3 September 2001 for CHF 2,035,000 for 6 months

Beneficiaries: 100,000

Operations Update No. 3 Period covered: 5 October - 20 November 2001

“At a Glance”

Appeal coverage: 50.1%

Related Appeals: 01.41/2001

Outstanding needs: CHF 1,015,146

The Disaster/Situation: Additional funding is still required to procure relief items for 10,000 families, to provide water and sanitation facilities in safe areas and to rehabilitate 500 wells in flooded areas outside the safe area. Despite being constrained by funding shortages, the Red Cross has effectively implemented its plan of action for the flood operation.

Operational Developments

Distribution of relief assistance continues in most affected areas and is expected to be completed by the end of the year. The Royal Government of Cambodia, anticipating the return of water levels to normal, continued the rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure with assistance from its partners and other organisations. However, the water is receding slowly and remains high in some areas causing large numbers of livestock to remain stranded in safe areas. In terms of rehabilitation and preparedness, the Cambodian Red Cross (CRC), with the support of the International Federation and other partners, is now focusing on water and sanitation activities in the so called ‘safe areas’.

Red Cross Red Crescent action

Red Cross activities concentrated on the procurement, transportation and distribution of essential food and non food items to the those people affected by the flood. Additionally the disaster management (DM) consultant continued to support the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) and detailed planning continued for water and sanitation activities in the six worst affected provinces (Kratie, Kampong Cham, Prey Veng, Svay Rieng and Stung Treng).

The majority of displaced people returned to their villages from safe areas and started to rehabilitate their homes. Food and non-food relief distributions continued as CRC received over 1,000 metric tons of rice as in-kind support. The Federation initiated the procurement of 7,000 sets of additional relief items in October-November as further funding became available. Fifty percent (10,000 sets) of the total number of relief items funded through this Appeal have been procured and distributions are continuing.

During this period CRC distributed relief items to 23,185 families bringing the total number of CRC assisted flood victims up to 35,578 in 2001 (this includes the 10,000 sets provided through this Appeal).

Table showing CRC distributions to flood victims (6 October - 20 November 2001)

Date	Province	District	Number of communes	Number of families	Number of people
7 October	Kg. Cham	Srey Santhor	4	1'100	4'958
7 October	Kg. Cham	Kang Meas	2	960	4'725
9 October	Svay Rieng	Svay Chrum	4	918	4'773
9 October	Svay Rieng	Svay Rieng	4	778	4'4045
11 October	Koh Kong	Sre AmBel	2	1'203	6'255
12 October	Svay Rieng	Kg. Ro	8	2'565	11'084
16 October	Takeo	Borei Chols	5	1'402	7'059
18 October	Kampot	Kg. Trach	3	896	4'659
20 October	Takeo	Angkor Bore	5	1'409	7'108
29 October	Kandal	Koh Thom	8	2'874	14'893
3 November	Kg. Thom	Kg. Svay	5	1'500	7'800
4 November	Kg. Cham	Kang Meas	11	190	857
5 November	Kg. Cham	Bantheay	5	63	298
6 November	Kg. Cham	Dambe	1	156	708
6 November	Prey Veng	Peam Ro	158	158	726
9 November	Kandal	Ksach Kandal	13	56	263
9 November	Kandal	Muk Kampul	9	1'027	4'711
12 November	Kandal	Kien Svay	6	198	894
13 November	Kg. Chhnang	Kg. Leng	9	1'522	7'914
14 November	Kandal	Poh Nhea Lu	5	42	189
17 November	Kandal	Muk Kampul	7	59	271
18 November	Kandal	Muk Kampul	9	3'166	16'463
20 November	Kg. Chhnang	Kg. Tralach	2	943	4'904
Total	10	23	285	23'185	155'557

CRC distributions include food (mainly rice), clothing, mosquito nets, plastic sheeting (shelter material), water containers (20 litre), soap, detergent, children's shoes and household kits. The kits also include a health education leaflet on water and sanitation (the use of chloramine and aluminium sulphate) as well as a leaflet on Red Cross and Red Crescent. Detailed distribution lists are available at the CRC Disaster Management Department at the national headquarters.

In 2001 Cambodia experienced both floods and drought; 12 out of 24 provinces/municipalities have been affected by the drought. Some provinces experienced both flood and drought in different districts. CRC is assisting drought victims in Kampot, Kampong Speu, Kampong Cham, Prey Veng, Kep, Takeo and Preah Vihear. Distributions will continue until December 2001.

CRC assisted the World Food Programme (WFP) in developing the distribution plan for flood and drought victims; the distribution of 500 MT of rice was carried out by WFP.

The Belgian Red Cross bilateral logistics delegate completed his mission as planned on 14 November. All Belgian Red Cross/Belgian Government funded relief items were procured and the majority have been distributed.

Relief distributions

Objective 1: 20,000 families have basic relief items.

10,000 sets of relief items have been procured and are still being distributed. A purchase order (PO) for an additional 7,000 sets has been issued.

The procurement of 10,000 health education leaflets (concerning the use of chloramine and aluminium sulphate, the prevention of diarrhoea and on the use of oral rehydration solution) was completed. Distribution is ongoing.

Shelter

Objective 1: 20,000 families in safe areas have adequate shelter.

10,000 plastic sheets have been procured and included in the distribution.

Logistics / Communications

Objective 1: A communications network is established in flood affected areas.

Due to insufficient funds this activity has not taken place.

Water-sanitation

Objective 1: Permanent water and sanitation facilities are constructed in safe areas to minimise the risk of the wide-scale spread of infectious diseases, particularly diarrhoea and skin diseases.

Following the detailed technical water and sanitation assessment in 32 old safe areas and 56 new safe areas in September 2001, a detailed plan of action and implementation time frame for latrine and well construction as well as hygiene education sessions were completed during the reporting period. The plan of action covers 39 safe areas in six provinces. The construction of latrines and wells in all safe areas is planned for December 2001 - January 2002. The CRC, in co-operation with the Ministry of Rural Development, will implement these activities in 30 safe areas and UNICEF has expressed an interest to cover the remaining nine safe areas. The safe areas are located in the provinces of Prey Veng, Kampong Cham, Kandal, Kratie, Svay Rieng and Stung Treng.

Table showing planned Red Cross water, sanitation and hygiene activities in new safe areas

Province	Location of the new safe areas	Name of Safe Area	Well	Latrine	Hygiene Education	Estimated implementation time frame
	District		1	4	81	To be determined
Prey Veng	Kg. Trabek	Wat Serey Sakor	1	4		December 2001 - January 2002 in all safe areas simultaneously
	Peam Ro	Wat Trast	1	4		
		Wat Boeng Kha Ek	1	4		

		P.Kandeang C.Office	1	4		
		Wat Puntay	1	4		
		Wat Prek Raing	1	4		
	Prey Veng	Wat Svay Antor	1	4		
		Wat Bak Tang	1	4		
		Wat/School Krachap	1	4		
	Kg. Leave	Wat Bak Douk	1	4		
	4 Districts	10 Safe areas	10	40	81	
Kg. Cham	Prey Chor	Toul Beng	1	4	75	To be determined
	Kroch Chhmar	Wat Kpouk Krom	1	4		
		H.School Krouch Chhmar	1	4		
	Tboung Khmom	Chouk Sandul	1	4		
		Wat Prasath	1	4		
	Batheay	Wat Klakrohim	1	4		
		P.School Baray Hun Sen	1	4		
		Wat Prous Meas	1	4		
	4 Districts	8 Safe areas	8	32	75	
Kandal	Lovea Em	Wat Prek Khmeng	1	4	50	To be determined
	Mouk Kampoul	Toul Koki	1	0		
	2 Districts	2 Safe areas	2	4		
Kratie	Kratie	Kbal Kanthom	1	4	23	To be determined
		Toul Chhleak	1	4		
	1 District	2 Safe areas	2	8	23	
Stung Treng	Stung Treng	Toul Lor Ith	1	2	20	To be determined
	Seam Bok	H.School Damrey Phong	0	2		
		Tbong Kla	0	2		
	2 Districts	3 Safe areas	1	6	20	
Svay Rieng	Svay Rieng	Wat Por Oudom	0	4	375	To be determined
		Toul Koh Morn	1	4		
	Kampong Ro	Toul Sopha	1	4		
		Wat Toul Ampil	1	2		
	Svay Chrom	Wat Oudomraingsey	0	4		
	3 Districts	5 Safe areas	3	18	735	
6 Provinces	16 Districts	30 Safe areas	26	108	624	

Objective 2: Existing water supplies are functioning properly.

Due to insufficient funds this activity has not taken place.

Objective 3: Safe water and hygiene information in flood affected areas.

15,000 safe water and 15,000 personal hygiene posters, which were developed and field tested during the flood operation in 2000, were printed and are ready for distribution as part of the hygiene education sessions mentioned above. In addition, a procurement requisition (PR) for 5,000 latrine posters, 5,000 well equipment posters and 500 well repair manuals was issued to facilitate the upcoming hygiene education and safe area construction work. Due to a favourable printing price compared to the estimated one, the delegation was able to initiate the printing of 5,000 latrine posters instead of the planned 1,000. The procurement of the 5,000 well equipment posters and the 500 well repair manuals has been initiated.

Health

Objective 1: 20,000 families have received health education information.

Through the distribution of 20,000 health education leaflets (see relief objective) as well as through additional health messages disseminated by RC staff at the distribution points, more than 20,000 families have been exposed to the health education campaign. To date, health authorities have not reported any major communicable disease outbreak related to the 2001 flood.

Objective 2: 26 safe areas have been assessed

This has been completed (for further detail please refer to Operations Update number two).

Federation Delegation

The Federation disaster preparedness (DP) delegate continued to support the CRC in the relief operation.

Additionally the Federation water and sanitation officer has played an important advisory role to the CRC provincial branches and to the headquarters and provincial departments of Ministry of Rural Development. He has assisted in the preparation of detailed action plans for water and sanitation facilities in the 30 safe areas. The Head of Delegation continued to support the overall relief operation which included facilitating a visit of the Swedish Development Agency (SIDA) to a relief distribution in Kampong Chhnang.

The Federation/CRC contracted Disaster Management (DM) consultant, based with the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM), resumed his duties on 19 November after a 3-week break for training responsibilities outside Cambodia. He continued “to provide technical advice to the NCDM leadership and management in ensuring that disaster impacts are adequately analysed and disseminated, enabling the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) to respond to humanitarian needs of flood victims in a timely and appropriate manner” (Terms of Reference of the DM consultant).

The NCDM is currently engaged in reviewing the disaster management activities of 2001 with the support of the DM consultant. The review focuses on

- early warning.
- preparedness planning at all levels.
- improvement of damage and needs assessment reporting.
- human resource development at NCDM and Provincial Committee for Disaster Management (PCDM).
- co-operation with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and International Organisations (IOs) in community based disaster risk management incorporated into poverty reduction programmes.

Based on this review, a 12 month action plan will be developed for submission to the president of the NCDM. For this purpose, the NCDM will be convening a series of consultation meetings that will culminate in a one-day workshop on 12 December 2001. The workshop will include the participation of the Provincial Governors, Ministries, NGOs and IOs.

The Federation/CRC consultant has co-operated closely with the United Nation Disaster Management Team (UN-DMT) and with the World Food Programme (WFP). Needs and damage assessments were the main focus of this co-operation and a follow-up training session, organised by WFP, was conducted during the reporting period.

A management meeting has been held on weekly basis between the DM consultant, CRC and the Federation.

Coordination and Management

NCDM conducted one technical working group (WG) meeting during the reporting period. However, several mini-workshops and discussion groups were conducted especially in relation to the damage and needs assessment. The NCDM and the WG remain concerned that short term rice seed projects will be difficult to implement due to the continuing high water levels in many provinces. Therefore, the food security for the coming year, especially among the most vulnerable, remains a major challenge for the Government of Cambodia and its partners in this sector.

Initial meetings have also taken place between NCDM, the Mekong River Commission (MRC) and other organisations for longer term planning to improve early warning and preparedness.

Water and sanitation technical teams held a meeting and exchanged information on assessments carried out in the safe areas. During the meeting, Federation/CRC circulated two reports:

1. A report on the 44 safe areas that are already equipped with water and sanitation facilities (following the floods in 2000).
2. A report on the water and sanitation facilities in the 56 new safe areas (following the floods in 2001).

The Federation/CRC contracted DM consultant based at the NCDM maintained close contact with the UN-DMT and the WFP. The consultant also took part in the meetings and workshops (see above) on needs and damage assessment, contributing to the workshop results. The European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO) also organised a meeting (15 October) on needs assessments.

The Federation continued to maintain close contact with the CRC and the Belgian Red Cross logistics delegate for data gathering, information sharing, planning and implementation of the operation. The Belgian Red Cross delegate completed his mission to assist CRC in the procurement of emergency stocks and left the country on 14 November. The bulk of these stocks were not only procured but also distributed to the flood victims during the mission period. A small amount (1,500 household kits out of a total of 6,000) will be kept as an emergency stock for any upcoming disaster.

The Federation country and regional delegations, Cambodian Red Cross, Lao Red Cross and Thai Red Cross participated, among others, in the Regional Strategy for Food Management and Mitigation workshop (organised by the Mekong River Commission) held in Cambodia in October. The workshop brought together representatives from all four Mekong basin countries (Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and Thailand) with their partners and donors world-wide.

Outstanding needs

All available funding has been allocated to the Appeal budget. Additional funding is still required to procure relief items for 10,000 families, to provide water and sanitation facilities in safe areas and to rehabilitate 500 wells in flooded areas outside the safe area.

Financial Update

See attached.

Conclusion

Despite being constrained by funding shortages, the Red Cross has effectively implemented its plan of action for the flood operation. In-country donations to CRC have been encouraging and they continue to be received. Good progress has been made jointly by WFP, NCDM, Red Cross and others to improve the quality of the needs and

damage assessments. As water levels recede, the populations coping mechanisms for recovery and rehabilitation requires monitoring. Recovery and rehabilitation activities in relation to infrastructure repair will continue over the coming months and perhaps years. Food security continues to be a major issue as harvests have been lost and rice seed is scarce. The government is encouraging the international community to support capacity building efforts in disaster management based on the NCDM 2-year plan of action. A disaster management Working Group to assist the development of NCDM is essential in order to mitigate the impact of future disasters.

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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.

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>.

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