

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Bangladesh: Floods

Emergency appeal n° MDRBD002
GLIDE FF-2007-000080-BGD
Operations update n° 11
02 April 2008

Period covered by this Operations Update:
17 January to March 17 2008

Appeal target: CHF 7.1 million (USD 5.9 million or EUR 4.3 million)

Appeal coverage: 66%; Outstanding needs: CHF 2.4 million (USD 2.13 million or EUR 1.45 million).

[<click here for the Emergency Appeal>](#)
[<click here for the interim financial report>](#)

Appeal history:

- An Emergency Appeal launched on 3 July 2007 for CHF 842,257 (USD 684,762 or EUR 510,459) for six months to assist 133,255 beneficiaries.
- Emergency Appeal revised on 16 August 2007 to focus on the floods. The budget was increased to CHF 7,113,119 (USD 5,907,905 or EUR 4,310,980) for eight months to assist 1,200,000 beneficiaries due to the deteriorating situation.
- Appeal was extended for another six months till 3 September 2008 on 2 April 2008. It was done to implement activities delayed by the Cyclone Sidr operation and also due to further response to the appeal by the donors.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) allocated on 20 June 2007: CHF 250,000.dfdf



A raised tube well in Manikganj district

Summary:

Despite all setbacks, including diversion of 22,400 families' food and non-food relief commodities to the Cyclone SIDR operation, the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) continued to carry out its activities under the floods operation.

So far, 22,400 flood-affected families in 26 districts received their remaining food and non-food relief commodities, which had earlier been diverted to the Cyclone SIDR affected population, under a common agreement, at all level. In addition, 65,200 most affected people in 58 districts received warm blankets during the winter season. Under the livelihood scheme, 56,000 affected people directly benefited through seed and sapling distribution to marginal and small-scale farmers. Through the community participatory process, with a risk reduction/mitigation approach, approximately 17,000 vulnerable people in three targeted districts have access to safe drinking water and facilities for safe hygiene practices. A total of 55 existing water systems with raised platform were restored and another 110 water systems with raised platform were newly installed. In addition, 500 individual and 12 community latrines were constructed and handed over. Under recovery initiatives, 165 most vulnerable flood affected communities now have the ability to repair their own water systems. This has been possible through the water system repair tools and cleaning kits, which 1,065 most vulnerable families received to maintain their regular safe hygiene practices.

The operation benefited through the integration of all observations and recommendations by the monitoring and evaluation teams. Based on this, a two sessions relief workshop plan is underway with the participation of all affected BDRCS district branches, to carryout a lessons learned exercise and at the same time prepare for

future effective responses.

An understanding has been reached between the national society and the Bangladesh delegation to extend the floods operation for a period of an additional six months (4th March to 3rd September 2008) as there is some unspent money (approximately CHF 2.1 million). This is due to the increased response received from the donors during the months of December 2007 - February 2008, some set backs caused by the Cyclone SIDR operation and logistic procedure difficulties due to the implementation of two big operations.

[<For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal at http://www.ifrc.org>](http://www.ifrc.org)

The situation

Torrential rains leading to two consecutive phases of floods during the months of June-October 2007 devastated the lives of millions of people across Bangladesh. The situation took a turn for the worse with major rivers (Meghna, Brahmaputra, Padma and Jomuna) overflowing, causing inundation in the north, northeast and central parts of the country. This resulted in massive loss of lives, livelihoods, property and crop damages. Flood waters have caused colossal damage, destroying approximately two million hectares of crops and vegetables. It has affected and displaced millions of people across the country.

Activities implemented so far have assisted in improving the lives of the targeted beneficiaries. The supplementary food rations have helped affected people to gradually return to their normal activities, with the relief commodities filling up the food insecurity gap. The seeds and saplings distributed will help to re-cultivate destroyed crops, thereby assisting the vulnerable population in reclaiming their livelihoods. Improved water and sanitation facilities, as well as exposure to information, education and communication materials on health and care, will benefit the local people by helping to minimize exposure to health risks through knowledge.

The post implementation evaluation has been implemented from 21 February and will continue until 2 March 2008, by a team comprising an external evaluator, BDRCS and Federation officials. They visited the project sites in Manikganj and Shariatpur. They consulted and exchanged views with BDRCS and Federation concerned officials, government authorities and beneficiaries to assess the effectiveness of the project. They have also identified the areas for improvement for future interventions. Moreover, they have shared knowledge and lessons learnt in the disaster relief operation. The outcome of the evaluation are expected to be received very soon.

The six months extension of the operation, due to unspent money and the implementing of two big operations, will cover activities related to the pre-positioning of some of the most commonly used non-food items, like saris and lungies (clothing items for women and men), blankets and family kits. It is planned that the recovery related activities, such as water and sanitation (watsan), will cover latrines and tube wells. Under health, activities related to watsan will also take place. Under capacity building, activities related to training on disaster relief management and preparing for the upcoming monsoon season will be carried out. For promotion of livelihoods, support will be provided through the repair/renovation of most affected branches following detailed engineering assessment. In addition, lessons-learned workshops, with the participation of respective BDRCS district branches, will take place, along with updating of the relief manual and provision of equipment for BDRCS' relief department. Together with the procurement of an ambulance and upgrading of some of the BDRCS vehicles for better preparedness in view of deployment in any emergency disaster situation, emergency equipment as first aid kits, rain coats, vests, etc. will also be done. Expenses related to the operation support costs will also be covered from the unspent money.

Coordination and partnerships

The rehabilitation of watsan facilities was a priority for families affected by the floods. The remaining funds from the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO), with their permission, were used to scale-up the existing watsan activities, approximately reaching an additional 9,000 beneficiaries (1,800 families). The watsan activities conducted from the balance of ECHO funds (EUR 49,424 or approximately CHF 78,920) were completed in early February 2008.

Notebooks, flyers, IEC materials, monthly desk planners and brochures were distributed to Movement members, key humanitarian agencies such as the UN and media and government offices for dissemination and awareness building purposes.

Red Cross Red Crescent action

Overall objective: The urgent needs (health and care, water and sanitation, food, clothing, household items, shelter etc.) of 240,000 unassisted families (1.2 million people) are met, the outbreak of disease is prevented and early recovery needs are supported, while BDRCS capacity is enhanced.

Objective 1: 170,000 severely affected and unassisted families (850,000 people) receive additional emergency food rations and essential non-food items

The last phase of distribution started soon after the flood relief operation resumed its activities. Relief commodities that had been diverted due to the Cyclone SIDR operation have been delivered to all the respective districts since mid-January 2008 and continuing through the third week of February 2008. Food, saris and lungies were delivered to 26 districts for 22,400 families. It was initially planned to distribute 60,500 blankets but a request from BDRCS to assist more vulnerable people identified during the winter season resulted in distributing an additional 4,700 blankets. As a result, a total of 65,200 blankets in 58 districts and 600 family kits in 20 districts were distributed.

Prior to the distribution process, the active Red Crescent Youth (RCY) volunteers assisted in identifying, verifying and registering the most vulnerable people through door-to-door visits. With their help, 85 percent of the relief distribution has almost been completed. It is expected to be completed by end-March. The pre and post distribution processes were monitored by the BDRCS branches, under close supervision of the national headquarters and Federation.

Objective 2: Basic health care services (including preventive and promotive health) are provided to 70,000 families (350,000 people) of the most severely affected population for two and half months.

One of the essential needs of the flood-affected families was to increase watsan facilities, which had been addressed with the balance of funds to reach approximately 6,200 families. As per the approved proposal, all the related watsan activities have been successfully implemented by the BDRCS units in the three targeted districts. By the first week of February 2008, all 500 new sanitary latrines were constructed (previously 400 latrines were constructed in December 2007), the installation of 55 new tube wells and raised platform of 55 existing tube wells were completed. With the completion of these, the national society will ensure the provision of adequate quantities and safe drinking water and prevent these wells from inundation in case of flooding during the next monsoon season. BDRCS, with the support of the Federation, provided 165 tool/repair kits for the pumps to the beneficiaries.

The BDRCS units of Manikganj and Tangail districts completed the construction of 12 community latrines in the flood shelter, schools and buildings used as shelters during the floods. The teachers and villagers took their own initiatives and formed a committee at each site to ensure that these community latrines were well maintained.

For the proper maintenance of sanitary latrines and tube wells in all three districts, the BDRCS units, with the support of the Federation, have provided 1,065 sanitary cleaning kits for individual latrines and tube wells. The cleaning kit consists of a 20 litre bucket, 40 litre water container, hand towel, two sandals, bleaching powder, toilet brush and a small bucket.

Table: Beneficiary breakdown and watsan interventions in the three districts badly affected by the floods

No	District	Activities			
		Raising platform of existing tube wells	Installation of new tube-wells	Individual sanitary latrine for families	Community latrines
1	Tangail	32	22	300	4
2	Manikganj	36	28	340	8
3	Shariatpur	32	15	260	-
		100 for 2,000 families	65 for 1,300 families	900 for 900 families	12

Objective 3: 15,000 families severely affected by the floods have received the necessary construction materials for damaged houses and/or livelihoods support, through in kind goods.

Seed and sapling distributions have been completed, benefiting 11,200 low and marginal farmers with winter crops such as boro rice, wheat and vegetables and five types of saplings, consisting of a combination of *Mehgani* (used for making furniture, boats, etc.), *Nim* (used for producing herbal products and medicines), mango, coconut, and lemon. The districts covered were Faridpur, Shariatpur, Manikganj and Tangail.

Objective 4: The capacity of BDRCS to respond effectively to disasters is enhanced.

BDRCS, with the support of the Federation, is planning to conduct a relief workshop for all the units involved in the 2007 floods operation. The objective of the workshop will be to enhance the capacity of the BDRCS units to respond to disasters effectively. The workshop is proposed in four clusters¹. Each cluster will facilitate ten BDRCS

¹ Four clusters represent the north, east, south and west parts of Bangladesh where the relief workshop will be held.

district units with three participants (active RCY volunteers) from each unit. Priority will be given to active RCY and concerned officers who have been actively involved in the 2007 floods operation. The workshop will include a first session on basic Movement activities, the seven Fundamental Principles, Code of Conduct and the Sphere Project, followed by a second continuous session covering basic disaster preparedness and response and lessons learned from the floods operation. The workshop is expected to be conducted in April 2008.

Communications – Advocacy and public information

A web story was posted on the Federation website on 22 February, focusing on various communities in northern Bangladesh who are becoming resilient to floods and resisting the impact of climate change. The web story focused on the various measures people are taking to protect themselves from the upcoming floods. Communities are active in this, with the assistance of local volunteers who are disseminating knowledge among community members. The story highlighted the efforts of volunteers in spreading knowledge to the communities on how to obtain clean drinking water, thereby reducing water-borne diseases during the flood season when access to pure water is limited.

A brochure with updated information on BDRCS and the Federation relief operations for floods, acknowledging ECHO's generous contribution, was published on 6 March. The brochure contains information on food and non-food relief distributions, followed by livelihood and watsan projects conducted in the five ECHO supported districts, viz. Tangail, Manikganj, Shariatpur, Faridpur and Rajbari. Capacity building of volunteers, who have been efficient in relief distribution and in assisting vulnerable groups like women and the elderly, was also reflected. In addition, desk calendars were published showing pictures of relief operations in the flood affected areas and giving visibility to ECHO, BDRCS and the Federation.

How we work

All International Federation 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 is committed to the *Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere)* in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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- Asia Pacific zone office in Kuala Lumpur: Disaster management unit: Mr. Latifur Rahman (regional disaster management delegate), email: latifur.rahman@ifrc.org; phone: +603.9207,5723, mobile; +60.12,975,0144; regional logistics unit: Jeremy Francis (regional logistics coordinator), jeremy.francis@ifrc.org; +603,9207,5753; fax: 603,2161,1210.
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**[<Interim financial report below;
click here to return to the title page>](#)**

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRBD002 - Bangladesh - Floods, Landslides, Torndao

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/6-2008/2
Budget Timeframe	2007/6-2008/9
Appeal	MDRBD002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget		5,095,836				5,095,836
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
American Red Cross		150,535				150,535
Australian Red Cross (from Australian Government)		368,862				368,862
Bangladesh - Private Donors		16,006				16,006
British Red Cross		475,307				475,307
Canadian Red Cross		86,130				86,130
Danish Red Cross		102,835				102,835
ECHO		664,000				664,000
Finnish Red Cross		279,600				279,600
German Red Cross		131,710				131,710
Hong Kong Red Cross		165,496				165,496
Irish Government		328,800				328,800
Japanese Red Cross		314,786				314,786
Korea Republic Red Cross		50,000				50,000
Liechtenstein Red Cross		18,433				18,433
Monaco Red Cross		16,500				16,500
Netherlands Red Cross		513,510				513,510
Norwegian Red Cross		98				98
On Line donations		17,516				17,516
Other		1,144				1,144
Singapore Red Cross		4,221				4,221
Singapore Red Cross (from Singapore Government)		23,921				23,921
Swedish Red Cross		109,140				109,140
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)		179,400				179,400
Swiss Red Cross		100,000				100,000
United Arab Emirates Red Crescent		12,282				12,282
United States - Private Donors		80				80
VERF/WHO Voluntary Emergency Relief		2,000				2,000
C1. Cash contributions		4,132,309				4,132,309
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
ECHO		160,000				160,000
Intel Foundation		52,500				52,500
New York Office (from Kraft Foods)		13,125				13,125
New York Office (from Western Union Foundation)		35,001				35,001
OPEC Fund For International Developm		262,500				262,500
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)		523,126				523,126
<u>Inkind Goods & Transport</u>						
Norwegian Red Cross		1,709				1,709
C3. Inkind Goods & Transport		1,709				1,709
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
Other		17,600				17,600
C4. Inkind Personnel		17,600				17,600
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)		4,674,744				4,674,744
D. Total Funding = B + C		4,674,744				4,674,744

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MDRBD002 - Bangladesh - Floods, Landslides, Torndao

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/6-2008/2
Budget Timeframe	2007/6-2008/9
Appeal	MDRBD002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

Appeal Coverage		92%				92%
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II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		4,674,744				4,674,744
E. Expenditure		-2,639,267				-2,639,267
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		2,035,477				2,035,477

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRBD002 - Bangladesh - Floods, Landslides, Torndao

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/6-2008/2
Budget Timeframe	2007/6-2008/9
Appeal	MDRBD002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		5,095,836					5,095,836	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	833,330							833,330
Clothing & textiles	716,018		601,957			601,957		114,061
Food	1,206,227		1,185,760			1,185,760		20,467
Seeds,Plants	127,050		125,218			125,218		1,832
Water & Sanitation	434,720		95,765			95,765		338,955
Medical & First Aid	8,475		5,709			5,709		2,765
Other Supplies & Services	475,025		121,428			121,428		353,597
Total Supplies	3,800,844		2,135,838			2,135,838		1,665,006
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles	138,983							138,983
Computers & Telecom	22,455		3,382			3,382		19,073
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.	2,034							2,034
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	163,472		3,382			3,382		160,090
Transport & Storage								
Storage	35,328		24			24		35,304
Distribution & Monitoring	44,984		36,385			36,385		8,598
Transport & Vehicle Costs	109,157		11,032			11,032		98,124
Total Transport & Storage	189,468		47,441			47,441		142,027
Personnel								
International Staff Payroll Benefits	257,400		103,202			103,202		154,198
Regionally Deployed Staff	1,650		1,650			1,650		0
National Staff	51,250		28,102			28,102		23,148
National Society Staff	68,679		14,548			14,548		54,131
Consultants	3,150		3,150			3,150		0
Total Personnel	382,129		150,652			150,652		231,477
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	32,772		4,652			4,652		28,119
Total Workshops & Training	32,772		4,652			4,652		28,119
General Expenditure								
Travel	29,824		16,912			16,912		12,912
Information & Public Relation	25,595		15,379			15,379		10,216
Office Costs	51,525		18,055			18,055		33,470
Communications	23,723		12,445			12,445		11,279
Financial Charges	59,322		32,666			32,666		26,656
Other General Expenses	5,932		966			966		4,967
Total General Expenditure	195,922		96,422			96,422		99,500
Programme Support								
Program Support	331,229		170,825			170,825		160,404
Total Programme Support	331,229		170,825			170,825		160,404
Services								
Services & Recoveries			9,739			9,739		-9,739
Total Services			9,739			9,739		-9,739
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			20,314			20,314		-20,314
Total Operational Provisions			20,314			20,314		-20,314
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	5,095,836		2,639,267			2,639,267		2,456,569
VARIANCE (C - D)			2,456,569			2,456,569		