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DREF Final Report

India: Odisha Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRIN007
GLIDE n° FL-2011-000138-IND
30 May 2012

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' (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 by this update:

20 September 2011 to 29 February 2012

Summary:

A total of CHF 240,301 was allocated from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 20 September 2011, to support the Indian Red Cross Society in delivering immediate assistance to approximately 75,000 beneficiaries or to replenish disaster preparedness stocks following this operation. This DREF operation received an extension and had concluded in 29 February 2011. The European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (DG ECHO), the Netherlands Red Cross and government, and the Canadian Red Cross and Canadian government (CIDA) have replenished the DREF for this allocation.



IRCS staff and volunteers distributing relief items to the flood affected people in Odisha. **Photo:** IRCS.

Since IRCS resources were already stressed due to flood response in other states, very minimal resources could be deployed in response to the Odisha floods before the DREF was launched. Available drinking water sources were contaminated with flood water resulting in an urgent need for safe drinking water. Two IRCS national disaster response teams (NDRTs) and national disaster water and sanitation response teams (NDWRTs) were deployed to the field to conduct assessments.

The IRCS Odisha state branch volunteers were in the forefront in assisting vulnerable people since the onset of this operation and delivered immediate relief to the affected population. The relief provision included food items, health check up by Red Cross mobile teams, hygiene promotion, rehabilitation and treatment of the water sources and non-food items like dhoti, saree, mats, hygiene kits, towel, bed sheets, and tarpaulins. In addition, the IRCS national headquarters provided non-food items to the Odisha state branch to enable them to support 2,000 families. Besides this, IRCS was able to reach 1,150 families (5,750 people) from 10 villages with purified safe drinking water.

To document the learning from the operation, a lesson learnt workshop was held in February 2012 and participated by the national headquarters, Odisha state branch staff and volunteers who were involved in the operation. A short documentary on operation achievements and challenges was shared with other volunteers and used in future trainings. Furthermore, this would help IRCS in the long run to analyse the best practises and the gaps to improve Red Cross national disaster response mechanisms.

Prior to operation, a close coordination mechanism was maintained with the government authorities and NGO network to avoid duplication and to efficiently use the available resources.

Of the total allocated DREF, CHF 190,396 was spent. The balance of CHF 49,905 has been returned to DREF.

The major donors and partners of DREF include the Australian, the American government, the Austrian Red Cross, the Belgian government, the Canadian Red Cross and Canadian government (CIDA), Danish Red Cross and government, DG ECHO, the Irish and the Italian governments, the Japanese Red Cross Society, the Luxembourg government, the Monaco Red Cross and government, the Netherlands Red Cross and government, the Norwegian Red Cross and government, the Spanish Government, the Swedish Red Cross and government, the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), the Medtronic and Z Zurich Foundations, and other corporate and private donors.

Replenishment to the DREF specific to this operation was made by the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (DG ECHO), the Netherlands Red Cross and government, and the Canadian Red Cross and Canadian government (CIDA).

IFRC, on behalf of IRCS, would like to thank all partners for their generous contribution to this DREF. Details of the contributions to the DREF can be found on www.ifrc.org/dref.

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

The situation

The state of Odisha (formerly known as Orissa) witnessed severe flooding due to heavy water flows in the Mahanadi River system. The situation was worsen by the release of water from Hirakund reservoir, which crossed its maximum water level of 630 ft.

Flood waters affected 19 of Odisha's 30 districts, including Angul, Balasore, Bargarh, Bhadrak, Boudh, Cuttack, Deogarh, Dhenkanal, Jajpur, Jagatsinghpur, Jharsuguda, Kendrapada, Khurda, Mayurbhanj, Nayagarh, Nuapada, Puri, Sambalpur, and Subarnapur.

The second wave of floods in Odisha affected six districts. Bhadrak, Kendrapada, Keonjhar and Jajpur were among those worst affected by this second wave, where twenty people lost their lives and five people are still missing.

A total of 2.532,313 people were affected in the second wave, while more than 3.4 million people were affected during the first flood wave.

Table 1: Impact of floods

Particulars	Impact of first flood wave	Impact of second flood wave
Districts affected	19	10
People affected	3,443,989	2,532,313
Lives lost	41	42
Missing persons	198	1362
Villages marooned	118,429	157,770
Houses damaged	280,320	174,874
Persons evacuated	4,897	4,060
Villages affected	19	10

Note: The information in above table is based on the report dated 9 October 2011 of IRCS Odisha state branch.

The Government of India deployed 960 boats for the rescue and relief operation. Four helicopters from the Indian Navy and Indian Air Force were pressed into service for airdropping of food packets in many affected areas of Kendrapada, Puri, Jagatsinghpur, Cuttack, Boudh and Nayagarh districts.

IRCS national headquarters supported the state branch of Odisha by reinforcing their capacities through the deployment of NDRT/NDWRT teams and release of non-food items and water treatment units. Training was given to youth volunteers as well as rural water supply and sanitation (RWSS) focal persons to deliver water, sanitation and hygiene promotion messages to the flood affected communities. Likewise, trained volunteers disinfected the hand pumps and open wells to enable the communities to obtain safe drinking water from their traditional sources.

All efforts were made to reach the maximum number of villages and households with safe drinking water. The collaboration of Red Cross with RWSS department could make available tankers for the distribution of the treated water.

The Odisha state branch made continuous efforts to reach the people in need with the non-food items in the flood affected districts. The additional dispatch of relief supplies from IRCS's Vikhroli warehouse to Odisha enabled the state branch to support even greater number of those affected.

Coordination and partnerships

IRCS Odisha state branch is heading the state level Inter Agency Group (IAG). During the relief operation regular coordination meetings were taking place at the Red Cross office in Bhubaneswar. IAG coordinated with all agencies on the ground to avoid duplication of efforts. IRCS was sharing regular updates with the in-country partner national societies in order to keep them informed of the unfolding situation.

Information from assessments to measure the impact of the floods in seven districts was continuously being sought by the IAG and disseminated amongst member organisations

Close coordination with non-governmental organizations rendering assistance is being maintained. Agencies including Concern Worldwide, Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA), World Vision, and Save the Children. Through these coordination mechanism, response was collectively provided to about 25,000 households, in which included hygiene kits, tarpaulins, family kits, bedding and cooking items, and food. Meanwhile, a coordination mechanism was established with the relevant government departments and agencies through regular meetings.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
Outcome: The immediate needs of at least 5,000 flood-affected families (25,000 beneficiaries) have been met through relief distributions in the flood affected districts of Odisha.
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Detailed need assessment by IRCS and mobilisation of national disaster response team (NDRT) and national disaster water and sanitation response team (NDWRT) members and volunteers.• Procurement for replenishment of non-food item (NFI) stocks.• Dispatch and transportation by IRCS to the distribution sites.• Distribution of relief items (tarpaulin, kitchen, cotton blanket, plastic bucket) by trained IRCS volunteers and staff.• Re-stock relief items distributed.• Regular detailed monitoring and reporting of distributions.

Achievements:

During this DREF operation, IRCS national headquarters distributed the following relief items to the affected people.

Table 2: Relief material distributed by IRCS in Odisha

Relief Items	Quantity
Gents dohti	1,978
Saree	2,646
Cotton blanket	0
Kitchen sets	1,050
Plastic buckets	200
Tarpaulin	7,068
Towel	2,450
Bed sheet	250
Mosquito nets	900
Hygiene kits	250

Two experienced NDRTs and NDWRTs were deployed to assist the Odisha state and district branches during the entire operation. Meanwhile, the Odisha state branch deployed three medical teams of doctors and pharmacists along with local community volunteers who provided assistance to more than 1,400 people.

Besides this, the replenishment of relief supplies was done locally using the global framework agreement through the Asia Pacific regional logistic unit in Kuala Lumpur. Restocking of relief supplies will prepare IRCS in respond to future disasters.

Table 3: List of relief items procured

Relief items	Quantity
Tarpaulin	5,000
Cotton blanket	10,000
Kitchen set	2,000
Plastic buckets	15,000
Saree	2,646
Dhoti	1,978
Towel	2,450
Bed Sheets	250

The consignment of relief items was sent from the Asia Pacific regional warehouse in Kuala Lumpur to the Kolkata port. The customs exemption certificate and other consignment documents was attained for the same. IFRC standard procurement procedures were followed for the local procurement.

Impact:

The early distribution of food and non-food items has brought about relief to the affected people who lost most of their belongings. These items provided them with the basic necessities for recovery and rebuilding their lives. Furthermore, IRCS assistance in psychological support to the affected people has helped in facilitating the recovery process.



IRCS volunteers on their way to the flood affected areas in Odisha for relief distribution. **Photo:** IRCS.

Challenges:

With the second wave flood, the number of people affected exceeded 3.4 millions. Given this situation there was huge relief needs in the affected areas. Although IRCS has the technical and human capacity to respond to the relief needs, its intervention was restricted due to scarcity of resources for relief supplies.

Furthermore as it was close to election period in the country, the distribution of relief supplies were suspended to avoid any kind of association with political activities in order for Red Cross intervention to remain neutral and independent.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: The risks to the flood-affected people from water and sanitation related diseases are reduced through the provision of safe water for 2,000 families, and hygiene promotion for up to 10,000 families in the flood affected districts of Odisha.

Outputs (expected results) and activities planned:

- Assess the existing water supply and sanitation situation.
- Selection of most vulnerable people as beneficiaries.
- Deployment of two IRCS water treatment units and provision of safe drinking water to up to 2,000 families (10,000 people).
- Distribution of water collection containers (as part of NFI distribution).
- Conduct training for Red Cross volunteers in hygiene promotion and safe storage and use of water. Following, trained volunteers to conduct hygiene promotion campaign and distribution of information, education and communication (IEC) materials for up to 10,000 families. Each beneficiary family will be given one bucket.
- Monitoring and evaluation.

Achievements:

During the relief operation, two NDRTs and NDWRTs coordinated with the RWSS department and district authorities to provide safe drinking water to the flood affected population. At the end of the operation, the teams had a debriefing session with the IRCS's secretary general along with other senior management officers, where they shared their experiences and highlighted the specific achievements and challenges faced while working in disaster situations.

Among the specific achievements, the response teams were able to install water treatment units in Kanas, Puri district whereby providing approximately 20,000 litres of safe drinking water daily for ten village. The treated drinking water was distributed through boats and tankers provided by the RWSS department.

Table 4: Details of the beneficiaries of water treatment unit

No.	Name of the village	Total population	Total households
Kandahota gram panchayat			
1	Harasapada	800	160
2	Khandahota	700	140
3	Bindhana	700	140
4	Nabada	600	120
5	Suhagapur	400	80
6	Tigiria	600	120
Andalasingh gram panchayat			
7	Bijipur	400	80
8	Jharada	400	80
9	Radhakrishnapur	400	80
Jamiliguda gram panchayat			
10	Jamiliguda	750	150
	Total	5,750	1,150

At the beginning of the relief operation, 45 IRCS youth volunteers were trained on operating the water treatment unit, distribution of safe drinking water to the villages, disinfection of bore/open wells and hygiene promotion campaign.

Of the 45 trained volunteers, 21 volunteers were selected to conduct outreach campaigns in the affected communities. Key messages were disseminated to 20,144 people on household water treatment, hygiene promotion, storage of safe drinking water and disinfection of hand pumps. Some of the achievements of outreach campaign included:

- Identifying contaminated water sources due to floods.
- Sensitizing people on use of safe drinking water, halogen tablets, handling of water and storage.
- Sensitizing people on using toilets during emergency or non emergency period.
- Providing bleaching powder to each communities and demonstrated to them on ways to disinfect their water sources.
- Distributing halogen tablets IEC materials to the communities.

Impacts:

It was good exposure for IRCS volunteers as it was their first time focusing on large scale hygiene promotion. Hygiene promotion has been recognized as one of the key areas of IRCS intervention in all the disaster relief operations in the future. Furthermore, the dedicated volunteers travelled by boats, rickshaw, tankers and foot to reach the vulnerable people in remote areas with safe drinking water, thus minimising potential health risk in these areas.

Challenges:

With high pH level detected in the water sources (8.2 pH), the IRCS water treatment technology was unable to reduce the pH level to a suitable drinking level in accordance with drinking water standards. Hence, the installation and operationalization of a second water treatment unit from IRCS Kolkata warehouse was delayed.



IRCS Odisha state branch volunteers distributing safe drinking water to the people in flood affected villages. **Photo:** IRCS.

Lessons Learnt Workshop

A lessons learnt workshop was organized on 9 and 10 February 2012 by IRCS national headquarters in order to capture learning and best practices of the Odisha flood relief operation. The aim of the workshop was to help IRCS to further develop its disaster response mechanism. Some of the key recommendations include:

- Assessment skills and formats used for state disaster response team should be improved.
- Coordination between the state and national headquarters should be improved.
- While planning for national response, the state and district branches should be briefed clearly on the role and responsibilities of the human resource being deployed.
- In Odisha, district branch disaster preparedness and response mechanism should be improved, with reference to the national disaster preparedness response mechanism (NDPRM).
- The state branch executives should be sensitized on disaster response tools of national headquarters.
- Efficiency of warehouses should be improved through reforms in warehousing procedures and by deploying new technologies to facilitate quick dispatch of relief supplies.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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.
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MDRIN007 - India - Odisha Floods

Appeal Launch Date: 20 sep 11

Appeal Timeframe: 20 sep 11 to 29 feb 12

Final Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/9-2012/4
Budget Timeframe	2011/9-2012/2
Appeal	MDRIN007
Budget	APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Funding

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	Deferred Income
A. Budget	240,301					240,301	
B. Opening Balance	0					0	
Income							
<u>Other Income</u>							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>	240,301					240,301	
C4. Other Income	240,301					240,301	
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)	240,301					240,301	
D. Total Funding = B +C	240,301					240,301	
Coverage = D/A	100%					100%	

II. Movement of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	Deferred Income
B. Opening Balance	0					0	
C. Income	240,301					240,301	
E. Expenditure	-190,397					-190,397	
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	49,904					49,904	

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/9-2012/4
Budget Timeframe	2011/9-2012/2
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III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)	240,301						240,301	
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	73,113	60,384				60,384	12,729	
Clothing & Textiles	23,021	35,148				35,148	-12,127	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	18,827	1,540				1,540	17,287	
Utensils & Tools	52,129	63,920				63,920	-11,790	
Other Supplies & Services	30,214						30,214	
Total Relief items, Construction, Su	197,304	160,991				160,991	36,313	
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Storage	1,828	1,403				1,403	424	
Distribution & Monitoring	5,483	810				810	4,673	
Transport & Vehicles Costs		496				496	-496	
Logistics Services		1,704				1,704	-1,704	
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	7,311	4,414				4,414	2,897	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training		5,475				5,475	-5,475	
Total Workshops & Training		5,475				5,475	-5,475	
General Expenditure								
Travel	16,450	7,622				7,622	8,828	
Information & Public Relations		109				109	-109	
Office Costs		50				50	-50	
Communications	914	617				617	297	
Financial Charges		-501				-501	501	
Other General Expenses	3,656						3,656	
Total General Expenditure	21,020	7,897				7,897	13,123	
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recov	14,666	11,620				11,620	3,046	
Total Indirect Costs	14,666	11,620				11,620	3,046	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	240,301	190,397				190,397	49,905	
VARIANCE (C - D)		49,905				49,905		