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Information bulletin Bangladesh: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Information bulletin no° 1

Date of issue: 29 July 2016

This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) will, however, accept direct assistance to provide support to the affected population.

[<click here for detailed contact information>](#)

The situation

Due to monsoon downpour since 19 July 2016 and downstream flow from upstream has slowly increased the water level. Several areas in Bangladesh are experiencing floods since 22 July 2016. The flooding situation in the north and northeastern regions is deteriorating as the water level in the Jamuna, Teesta, Dharla, Ghagot and several other rivers reached above the danger level, forcing thousands of people to move from their houses. The flood affected families in these areas are in need of foods, safe drinking water, medicine, oral saline, emergency shelter and latrines. Many people have been living under the open sky with limited food. At least six persons including two children were drowned in the floodwater in Gaibandha and Nilphamari. The overall flooding situation worsens across the country due to the incessant heavy rain and tidal surge in the last couple of days. According to the Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC), some parts of low lands adjacent to Brahmaputra and Jamuna Rivers at Gaibandha, Jamalpur, Bogra, Serajganj, Natore districts, Ganges-Padma rivers at Rajbari, Manikganj, Munshiganj and Shariatpur districts are likely to worsen in the next 48 hours.



One of the many flood affected families is leaving their house due to the current flood situation in Bogra district.

Photo: BDRCS

According to the situation report from Food Security cluster and other sources, it is reported that around 1.3 million people are affected in more than 10 districts. Among the affected population, 51 per cent are female and 44 per cent are children (under 18 years). In several districts, Aman paddy fields, saplings and seed beds have been flooded. The worst affected districts are Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogra, Sirajganj, Jamalpur and Sunamganj.

According to the Department of Disaster Management (DDM), government has allocated 3,650 MT of rice and around CHF 81,250 in cash to support the affected districts. To date, approximately 44 per cent (1,710 MT) of allocated rice, 50 per cent (CHF 40,613) of allocated cash and 4,867 packet of dry food have been distributed among the flood affected families.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) is monitoring closely the overall floods situation. Local branch offices of BDRCS are collecting information through local Red Crescent volunteers and secondary sources (government officials and local government representatives) and sharing the information with BDRCS national headquarters especially with response department. Based on field report, BDRCS allocated CHF 8,750 (BDT 700,000) for procurement and distribution of dry food in seven flood affected districts (Kurigram, Bogra, Sirajganj, Jamalpur, Nilphamari, Lalmonirhat and Sunamganj).

Nilphamari Red Crescent unit distributed cash for dry food to 1,000 families, while Bogra Red Crescent unit distributed dry food to 400 families through their local fund. Bogra, Sirajganj, Jamalpur and Kurigram district Red Crescent units mobilised eight water treatment kits (capacity 1,000 lit/hr) to provide safe drinking water to the affected people.

The Response Department of BDRCS is coordinating with the respective Red Crescent units, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and other Movement partners. In addition, the department has been compiling reports received from Red Crescent units, media, and other secondary sources, and sharing the information internally and with the Movement partners. To date, two situation reports on recent floods have been published and shared by BDRCS.

IFRC Bangladesh country office has been closely monitoring the situation and is on standby for further emergency response support. Currently, IFRC is supporting the Response Department of BDRCS to coordinate with the government and other agencies for collecting information updates, situation analysis as well as for assessing the needs of the affected people. IFRC Bangladesh country office provided CHF 1,000 (BDT 80,000) to the BDRCS for mobilisation of the water treatment kits.

All in-country partner national societies (PNSs) are communication with BDRCS and IFRC Bangladesh country office to extend their support and analyse the potential humanitarian needs. Under the forecast based financing project, German Red Cross is planning to distribute cash grant (CHF 63 per family) to 1,720 families in two sub-districts (Sarikandi and Dhanut) under Bogra district unit.

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.