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# Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

## Sri Lanka: Floods and Landslides

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

<b>DREF operation n° MDRLK005</b>	<b>GLIDE n° <a href="#">FL-2016-000050-LKA</a></b>
<b>Date of issue: 21 May 2016</b>	<b>Date of disaster: 14 May 2016</b>
<b>Operation manager (responsible for this EPoA): Igor Dmitryuk, Head of Country Office</b>	<b>Point of contact (name and title): Igor Dmitryuk, Head of Country Office</b>
<b>Operation start date: 20 May 2016</b>	<b>Operation end date: 30 September 2016 (4 months)</b>
<b>Operation budget: CHF 249,443</b>	
<b>No. of people to be assisted: Up to 20,000 people (4,000 families)</b>	
<b>Host National Society present (n° of volunteers, staff, branches):</b> The Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS) is a voluntary humanitarian organization, it has a strong branch network in all the 25 districts of the country, who is capable in providing relief in times of disasters/emergencies. Over 500 staff and volunteers are trained in disaster response. National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT), Branch Disaster Response Teams (BDRT) and Divisional Disaster Response Teams (DDRT) are available at National, District and Divisional levels. SLRCS has also trained disaster response teams specialized on water and safety which has 150 members. These members are trained on life saving techniques to assist rescue operations in times of need. Further trained First Aid volunteers are available in all districts, who will be deployed immediately at time of disaster for live saving purposes.	
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation:</b> The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is actively supporting the SLRCS in developing the Emergency Plan of Action for the DREF request and coordinating with SLRCS for information sharing with the Movement partners and external partners. The International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) already provided initial support to the SLRCS operations pending activation of this DREF. Further as the movement partners in country SLRCS, IFRC and ICRC are maintaining a close coordination.	
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b> Government of Sri Lanka, Tri-forces (Sri Lanka Army, Air-force, Navy), Police, Disaster Management Centre (DMC), UN agencies, INGOs, and other civil society organizations.	

## A. Situation analysis

### Description of the disaster

A depression in the Bay of Bengal to the South East of Sri Lanka has caused heavy rains across the country since 14 May 2016. This has triggered flood and landslide situation in the country, which affected thousands of lives and livelihoods and damages to properties. According to the latest update from the Disaster Management Centre (DMC) on 19 May 2016 1200 hrs, 22 districts out of 25 districts have been reported to be affected by the heavy rains and subsequent impacts. Colombo, Gampaha, Kegalle, Puttalam and Kurunegala districts are among the highly affected districts. Intensity of floods increased due to release of water from small and medium reservoirs causing heavy influx of flash floods. Roads (including the national highways) were cut off at many places causing traffic congestions across the affected areas. This further affected the transportation of goods and services. On 20 May, all schools in Sri Lanka have been closed due to very bad weather conditions.



*Flood situation Biyagama - Gampaha*

<b>Table 1: Summary of damages and losses (DMC situation report 19-May-16 1200 hrs)</b>	
No. of districts affected	22 <i>Worst affected districts:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colombo (172,062 people)</li> <li>• Gampaha (122,232 people)</li> </ul>
No. of people affected	415,000
No. of people died	14 (attributed to the Aranayake landslide, Kegalle district) <sup>1</sup>
No. of people missing	21
No. of people displaced	306,773
No. of active safety centres	594
No. of houses fully damaged	229 (only in Kegalle district)



*Landslide Aranayake – Kegalle*



*Floods in Biyagama - Gampaha*

## Summary of the current response

### Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

#### Response by Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLCRS)

Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS) provided assistance to approximately 10,000 flood affected persons since the onset of the floods. Movement coordination meeting involving SLRCS, IFRC and ICRC was organised. SLRCS branches have activated their branch disaster response teams (BDRTs) and have been supporting the operations since 14 May. The following are various activities undertaken by SLRCS so far:

- Internally, the disaster management department, SLRCS national headquarters (NHQ) is sending timely alerts and weather warning messages to Branch Executive Officers (BEO) and senior management at the national headquarters to facilitate monitoring of situation and decision making;
- BDRTs were deployed to carry out rapid assessments in the affected areas - 24 hour and 72 hour assessments;
- Provided first aid services;
- Distributed cooked food and dry rations, non-food relief items (NFRI);
- The NHQ dispatched following NFRIs to Colombo, Gampaha, Kegalle and Kandy branches.
- A support team from the headquarters is deployed to Kegalle branch to assist branch in landslide operations at Aranayake;
- RDRT trained members in-country have been involved for operations in different capacities.
- SLRCS is participating in the coordination meetings with the GoSL, DMC and INGOs.

<sup>1</sup> There were informal reports of 137 people dead or missing in Aranayake. There was also landslide reported in Illukwatta, Kandy district; however the number of people affected by landslides is presently being assessed.

**Table 2: Summary of NFRIs dispatched from NHQ to branches**

Items	Qty	Item	Qty
Adult relief packs*	350	Tents	5
Baby relief packs*	145	Sarongs	500
Kitchen sets	200	Sarees	200
Essential household kits	320	Kaftans	300
Body bags	300	Plastic buckets	100
Sleeping mats	700	Bath towels	700
Jerry cans – 20L	200	Bedsheets	300

\*Refer to [annex 2](#) for details

### **Highlights of branch activities**

Branch	Response actions
<b>Gampaha</b>	<p>Provided assistance, which were supported by former VDMCs, DDRTs and divisional volunteers in Biyagama and Dompe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provided food and water to affected/trapped;</li> <li>• provided first aid;</li> <li>• transported injured persons to Biyagama hospital using boats and vehicles;</li> <li>• transported factory staff</li> <li>• helped community cooking;</li> <li>• provided lifesaving support;</li> <li>• distributed NFRI.</li> <li>• continuing rescue operations in the affected areas</li> </ul>
<b>Kegalle</b>	Assisting the landslide operations at Aranayake and managing a camp at Viyaneliya Temple where more than 384 people / 85 families are taking shelter. NFRI was distributed to all the families. Branch volunteers are continuing their service in camp management.
<b>Colombo</b>	Distributed dry rations to 800 people and cooked food to 1,000 people. Further distributed 200 NFRI to who are residing in the camps.
<b>Puttalam</b>	Provided tarpaulin sheets to 27 flood affected families.
<b>Kurunegala</b>	Provided dry rations to 161 families.

### **Movement Coordination**

Together with International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is assisting the operations. The country office in Sri Lanka together with the IFRC Country Cluster Office based out of New Delhi are closely monitoring the rainfall and flooding situation, exchanging technical support to the SLRCS for the preparation DREF appeal and other support to reach out to the affected people. Following a DMIS entry, IFRC issued an [Information bulletin](#) on 18 May.

IFRC and ICRC are coordinating with SLRCS in the flood response. ICRC has indicated that it will support SLRCS interventions as defined by the needs and gaps in SLRCS overall response plan. The ICRC promptly responded in full to the initial request made by the SLRCS to have a vehicle made available and administrative/transport/allowances/food costs covered for the branches engaged in the 5 priority areas during the first week of the emergency response.

Whereas the flooding has led to displacement of many people, there are no specific or major RFL needs that have emerged so far as the phone lines and other communication means are still working. The SLRCS and ICRC will constantly monitor the situation with intent, under ICRC lead, to activate related response actions should the needs arise.

### **Overview of non-RCRC actors in country**

The government of Sri Lanka and district administrative units are leading the response to floods and landslide across the country. Other INGOs are also working on the response interventions.

Partnerships with local donors/ agencies:

- Proposed a joint assessment with DMC
- World Vision Lanka provided transportation of NFRI to Kegalle, Kandy and Puttalam branches.
- A corporate donor is providing a grant of LKR 220,000 and another has contributed water bottles, noodles and biscuits for 300 people through Gampaha branch.
- Discussions initiated with Oxfam Sri Lanka to explore the possible joint interventions.

### Response by government of Sri Lanka

- Search and rescue operations - Thousands of people across the flood and landslide affected areas were shifted to safe locations like temples, churches, schools, community centres and other public utility places.
- Cooked food is provided
- Overall coordination among different agencies.
- The local district government authorities (collector office of the respective districts) have appealed to SLRCS to extend all possible support to the affected people.
- Proposed a joint assessment to be conducted together with Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS) and Disaster Management Center (DMC), Government of Sri Lanka.
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) together with the Ministry of Disaster Management held a meeting for the International missions in country, and an appeal for International Assistance was issued on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

### Response by Other INGOs

- UNICEF is mobilizing water and sanitation relief assistance together with MoH
- World Vision had dispatched 500 NFI kits yesterday along with a rapid assessment team to Aranyaka landslide area
- Oxfam provided 5 mobile toilets to Ratnapura
- I/NGOs are coordinating among each other for conducting rapid assessments and providing assistance

## Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

### Need analysis

Based on information gathered through the initial needs assessment, some identified needs include non-food relief items (NFRI), medical and first aid services, water and sanitation (WASH) requirements and school items.

**Table 3: Summary of SLRCS response areas**

Districts	People displaced	Families displaced	Assistance from SLRCS (7% of displaced)
Colombo	170,230	35,480	2,484
Gampaha	109,868	18,603	1,302
Puttalam	10,806	3,123	219
Kegalle	2,737	602	42
Kurunegala	2,392	703	49
<b>Total</b>	<b>296,033</b>	<b>58,511</b>	<b>4,096</b>

*Note: The SLRCS contingency plan recommends response coverage of at least 5% of the total displaced population. For this response, SLRCS is planning to provide humanitarian assistance to at least 4,000 families (20,000 people).*

SLRCS, in coordination with local authorities, conducted rapid initial assessments in the affected districts and branches have identified the immediate needs and priorities. Relief supplies stocked at SLRCS warehouses and branches are mobilized to support the victims. In addition, SLRCS aims to re-stock the diminished supplies as a part of its preparation for further floods that are forecast in the country.

The relief items stocked include non-food relief items (NFRI) such as tarpaulins, sarongs, kaftans, towels, bed sheets, mats, buckets, lanterns, adult relief packs, baby kits and kitchen sets. These have been identified as the basic needs to support the affected population.

Due to flooding, drinking water sources were contaminated and toilets were damaged, assistance on water and sanitation (WASH) at camps and for returning families is essential. Camps shall be provided with 2,000L water tanks

and temporary toilets. Government will truck water to the camps, which will be stored in the tanks provided. Families will be provided with water purification tablets and water storage containers to ensure safe drinking water.

Trained first aid volunteers are providing first aid services to injured people at rescue points and evacuations centers. Medical and first aid items at branch level are being deployed. DREF support will be used to further expand assistance and to replenish the first aid items utilized.

School children have lost most of their school items including workbooks and bags. There is a dire need for school items to start schooling upon re-opening of school.

### **Beneficiary selection**

This will be conducted in close coordination with the local authorities, and priority will be given to the people displaced by floods and landslide who are living in temporary shelters or evacuation centres. Close coordination among partners will ensure collaboration and avoid duplication.

In its responses, SLRCS will ensure that programmes are aligned with its own as well as IFRC's commitment to take into account gender and diversity, in which elderly, disabled, pregnant and lactating women, women-headed households, and children will be prioritized for assistance. Households that have lost all their assets and unable to recover without resorting to risky coping will also be targeted. These groups are more sensitive to changes in food and water access and more susceptible to diseases and infection.

### **Risk Assessment**

There are constraints in the affected areas due to blocked roads. Some areas are still cut off due to floodwaters having blocked the roads. However, it is expected that access will improve in the coming days when the rainfall and floodwaters recede.

## **B. Operational strategy and plan**

### **Overall objective**

The overall objective is to ensure that the immediate needs of 4,000 flood and landslide affected families are met through assessments, provision of emergency relief items, first aid services, WASH and school items. This DREF operation will be implemented over a period of four months.

### **Proposed strategy**

SLRCS, utilising its presence of staff and volunteers across the affected areas, has been actively engaged in disaster response since last week, when the heavy rain started. The operation is relief focused, providing the affected population, and especially the displaced population, with NFRI, FA items, WASH and school items.

The initial DREF supported relief operation will focus on five main areas

1. Distribution of NFRI utilising the existing stocks;
2. Water and sanitation support and hygiene promotion activities;
3. Mobilizing trained volunteers in the field – approximately 100 volunteers will be mobilized;
4. Replenishment of relief items distributed by SLRCS (refer to [annex 1](#));
5. Continues monitoring and reviewing the progress

Up to 4,000 families will be supported through DREF operation across branches identified as worst affected through initial SLRCS field assessments. Relief items will be distributed based on need rather than standardized packages per family. The provision of emergency latrines to temporary camps is an initial 50 units for up to 10,000 families, to complement actions by other organizations and as assessments continue. Similarly, camps will be identified and provided with water tanks based on need. These interventions may be revised in the coming weeks as further information becomes available, and an emergency appeal will be considered should the situation worsen.

### **Operational support services**

#### **Human resources**

No new paid staff will be engaged for this operation, implementation will be supported by volunteers and staff members existing in both SLRCS and IFRC offices. Mobilization of NDRT, BDRT and DDRT as well as staff expenses are covered in the operational budget. An RDRT will also be deployed to support in the NS in for a period of 2 months.

## **Logistics and supply chain**

Logistics support will be provided following SLRCS and/or IFRC procedures to source and procure relief items needed, and to ensure the efficient and timely delivery of these items for the success of the operation. NFIs that are being dispatched from pre-positioned stocks will be replenished following SLRCS and/or IFRC procurement procedures. The transportation and distribution cost within the country will be covered by this DREF.

IFRC Country office is providing logistical support to SLRCS in local procurement of relief supplies and technical advice for the same. IFRC will also keep close communication with SLRCS to ensure transparency and accountability in the process of replenishment of relief stocks. Additional logistics support to SLRCS will also be provided by the Asia Pacific Regional Logistics Unit and Country Cluster Support Team, South Asia, as per need.

## **Communications**

SLRCS communications staff are working in close coordination with the IFRC regional communications team to ensure that the evolving humanitarian needs and SLRCS response is well profiled across social media platforms and in the national and international media. A proactive approach will be taken to maintain media outreach and to produce communications materials including press releases, news stories, photos / video, key messages and infographics for external promotion by National Societies in their domestic markets.

## **Security**

SLRCS and IFRC continue to monitor the situation. Any security concerns will be handled with local authorities as per the existing security framework.

## **Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER)**

SLRCS will oversee all operational, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting aspects of the present operation in the flood affected area through its country-wide network of branches and volunteers. IFRC, through its Country office and Country Cluster Support Team in Delhi will provide technical support in program management to ensure the operation objectives are met.

Reporting on the operation will be carried out in accordance with the IFRC DREF minimum reporting standards. At least two updates will be issued during the operation's timeframe and a final report within three months of the end of the operation.

## **Administration and Finance**

Operational expenses such as volunteer per diem, accommodation, transportation, communication and coordination activities are factored in. Procurement of tarpaulins and family pack items will be done following SLRCS procedures with IFRC technical support. Finance and administration support to the operation will be provided by SLRCS national headquarters, with backing from the finance team of the IFRC country office.

## **Crosscutting matters**

### **Gender, diversity and protection**

Gender, diversity and protection issues will be mainstreamed in this operation. Among others, areas of focus will include prevention of sex and gender-based violence (SGBV) and child protection. Mainstreaming of gender, diversity and protection issues will also ensure that accountability lines are in place for GBV response and prevention.

SLRCS will strive to capture sex and age disaggregated data for the purpose of understanding the number and specific vulnerability of females to males based on their gender roles and age (i.e. to understand if a higher proportion of women, children or men are made vulnerable).

### **Community engagement and accountability**

Community accountability and feedback/response mechanisms will be integrated into the operation to ensure that affected populations have access to timely and accurate information on the nature and scope of services provided by SLRCS, and expected behavior of staff and volunteers.

Because only a fraction of affected populations will be targeted, the selection criteria will need to be communicated clearly to beneficiaries and wider communities, so that people will understand the rationale behind targeting. This will help to prevent any potential tensions/frustrations by those people who do not meet the beneficiary selection criteria. Community engagement and accountability services will be implemented through context-specific channels, group discussions, face-to-face discussions and publishing of selected lists.

## C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

### Quality programming / Areas common to all sectors

Outcome 1: Continuous assessment and analysis is used to inform the design and implementation of the operation																	
Output 1.1: Participation in assessments and continuous collection of information from local units																	
Activities planned	Weeks	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1.1.1 Conduct rapid field assessments		X	X	X	X												
1.1.2 Identify needs and response strategies		X	X	X	X												
1.1.3 Monitor the response interventions		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
1.1.4 Mobilize volunteers in the respective district branches		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X								
1.1.5 After action review														X	X	X	

### Shelter and settlements (and household items)

Sector	Needs analysis	Assistance planned and population to be assisted
Shelter and settlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Families have lost personal daily life items (personal, kitchen, sleeping)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of NFIs (family kits for 2,000 families, tarpaulins for 800 families, adult relief packs for 1,000 families and kitchen sets for 2,000 families)</li> <li><b>Up to 4,000 families (20,000 people) targeted</b></li> </ul>
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Families will need access to basic first aid material</li> <li>Families with babies will need access to special care items</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of 2,000 first aid kits</li> <li>Distribution of 1,000 baby kits</li> <li><b>2,000 families (10,000 people) targeted</b></li> </ul>
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School-going children have lost schools materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of school materials</li> <li><b>2,000 families (10,000 people) targeted</b></li> </ul>



<b>Output 4.2: Daily access to safe sanitation facilities which meets Sphere standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to target population</b>																	
<i>Indicators:</i>																	
a) No. of temporary toilets installed																	
b) No. of people reported to have access to sanitation facilities																	
<i>Activities planned</i>	<i>Weeks</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
4.2.1 Provide and install 50 temporary toilets in 5 camps		X	X	X	X												
<b>Output 4.3 Hygiene promotion activities which meet Sphere standards in terms of the identification and use of hygiene items provided to target population</b>																	
<i>Indicators:</i>																	
a) No. of people reached with hygiene promotion activities																	
b) % of the people reached with awareness messages who can correctly identify three aspects of personal hygiene knowledge																	
<i>Activities planned</i>	<i>Weeks</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
4.3.1 Mobilize and (re)train volunteers and train them on conducting hygiene promotion			X	X	X												
4.3.2 Identify 4,000 families (20,000 people) to be reached with hygiene promotion					X	X	X	X	X	X							
4.3.3 Reproduce information, education and communication materials for hygiene promotion					X	X	X										
4.3.4 Conduct hygiene promotion activities, including on safe water and food handling, in target communities and camps/shelters				X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
4.3.5 Monitor hygiene practices in target communities, camps and shelters, including correct use of sanitation facilities and safe water and food handling				X	X	X	X	X	X	X							

## Budget

### DREF OPERATION

21/05/2016

MDRLK005 Sri Lanka : Floods and Landslides

Budget Group	DREF grant budget
Shelter - Relief	14,400
Clothing & Textiles	130,014
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	3,571
Utensils & Tools	37,143
Other Supplies & Services	7,860
<b>Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES</b>	<b>192,989</b>
Storage, Warehousing	1,600
Distribution & Monitoring	13,000
Logistics Services	1,400
<b>Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE</b>	<b>16,000</b>
International Staff	6,500
National Society Staff	3,000
Volunteers	5,150
<b>Total PERSONNEL</b>	<b>14,650</b>
Travel	4,000
Information & Public Relations	3,480
Office Costs	1,000
Communications	2,100
<b>Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>10,580</b>
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	15,224
<b>Total INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>15,224</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>249,443</b>

## 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.

**Annex 1: Table 4: Summary of NFIs to be procured locally**

Relief item	Qty	Assistance to
Water purification tablets	10,000	4,000 families
Water tanks	30	15 camps
Jerry cans 5L	4,000	2,000 families
Temporary toilets	50	5 camps
Tarpaulins	800	400 families
Family pack - Sarong	4,000	4,000 families
Family pack - Kaftan	4,000	4,000 families
Family pack - Towel	4,000	2,000 families
Family pack - Bed sheet	4,000	2,000 families
Family pack - Mats	4,000	2,000 families
Family pack - Bucket	1,000	1,000 families
Family pack - Lantern	1,000	1,000 families
Adult relief pack	1,000	1,000 families
Baby kit procurement (local)	1,000	1,000 families
First Aid	2,000	2,000 families
Exercise books	30,000	10,000 students <sup>2</sup>
School bags	2,000	2,000 students
Kitchen set	2,000	2,000 families

**Annex 2: Table 5 & 6: Description of Baby relief packs and Adult relief packs**

***Baby relief pack***

No	Item	Quantity	Revised Specification
1	Napkin	6	Washable, 100% cotton, 22"x22", fringe (single) stitch, single layer, white colour.
2	Bath towels for infants	1	100% cotton, 39"x24", preferred dark colours
3	Baby Flannel	1	Woven 50% wool 36"x36", Fringe (Single) stitch
4	Feeding cup	1	Plastic, 6 oz, 180 ml, free from BPA

<sup>2</sup> 4,000 families/ 3 children per family = 12,000 children, with not all school-going age, approx. 3-5 books per child.

**Adult relief pack**

No	Item	Quantities	Revised Specification
1	Tooth Brush	5	Regular, medium
2	Sanitary napkins (Ladies)	1 (pkt)	10 Pcs, normal beltless
3	Bath Towel	2	100% cotton, 40" x 20", dark colours preferred
4	Comb	1	Plastic, length 8 " – 9", width 1"- 1.5"
5	Small torch	1	Metal, LED torch light with battery (A type) length between 6" to 9".
6	Plates	5	Plastic, 1" deep, diameter 8 "- 9"
7	Cups	5	Plastic, 3" deep, 200ml
8	Umbrella	1	Small umbrellas (55 – 60cm length), 3 folding, 8 ribs, single colour
9	Bed Sheet	2	single, 45" X 75" , 100%Cotton , Assorted colour (dark Colour preferred)