

DREF Bulletin



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

BANGLADESH: FLOODS, LANDSLIDES, TORNADO

DREF Bulletin
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The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in 185 countries.

In Brief

This DREF Bulletin is being issued based on the situation described below reflecting the information available at this time. It follows from [Information Bulletin 1](#) released on 14th June and entries made on [DMIS](#) on the 11th, 13th, 16th and 20th of June.

CHF 250,000 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to respond to the needs in this operation, targeting 10,000 families in 11 districts of Bangladesh.

An emergency appeal is being finalized and will be launched in the coming days, based on more detailed and verified information.

For further information specifically related to this operation please see the [last page](#) for contact information

Background and current situation

The early monsoon rain falling since 8th of June has caused havoc in different parts of Bangladesh causing flooding and landslides over the past week. TORNADOS also struck simultaneously in some districts worsening the situation.

The worst affected areas were the Southern and South-Eastern parts of the country. The torrential rainfall measuring 408mms¹ is the heaviest in the past 25 years according to press reports.

A landslide on 11 June combined with heavy water logging caused serious damage to one third of Chittagong city, affecting 1.5 million people² with around 130 people killed and 100 injured according to media reports. The hilly district of Bandarban was also badly affected by flash floods and landslides



Flood water inundated thatched house in Cox's Bazar

¹ Sources: Meteorological Dept., Flood forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC) of the GoB

² Source: Emergency Control room of Chittagong City Corporation

10 other districts (Cox's Bazar, Lalmonirhat, Netrakona, Sunamganj, Feni, Habiganj, Mouvlibazar, Bogra, Nilphamari and Kurigram) are also flooded³.

Continuous rain during the last two days within the districts of Sunamganj (480 mms), Hobiganj (186 mms) and Moulavibazar (205 mms) further worsen the existing flash flood conditions in these areas⁴. The flash floods also caused overflow of water in the in-land rivers. Simultaneously Feni, Brahmanbaria, and Lalmonirhat districts experienced tornados, killing several and injuring hundreds, and leaving thousands homeless⁵.

More rain is forecasted throughout the next couple of days/weeks, leaving little hope that floodwater will start receding soon. As this is just the beginning of the monsoon season, much worse maybe expected in the coming weeks.

Based on information from BDRCS branches, government and media sources⁶ the current estimate is that approximately 71,000 families have been affected, of which approximately 50,000 are homeless (see table below). According to the same sources, many thatched dwellings have been reported as damaged (12,000 in Bogra district alone), 2,000 hectares of crops and sown land are totally destroyed while a further 3,000 hectares (approx.) of paddy and seasonal vegetables are under water. Hundreds of kilometres of roads, and infrastructure (electricity, and gas lines) are damaged. are either damaged or disrupted.

The numbers of affected people, property and infrastructure are expected to rise as the rains continue, although the projections are not clear at this stage.

Inhabitants of many flooded districts have sought refuge on higher land, public places and roadways. Several hundreds are camping on the outskirts of the affected areas, with little protection from the environmental elements. Many are being forced to live under unhygienic conditions resulting in diarrhoea, acute respiratory infections, skin and other water born diseases⁷.

Families affected by landslide, flash floods, riverine floods, river erosion and water logging (Based on initial assessment and information by the joint assessment team comprising of Federation and BDRCS as at Morning 19 June 2007)

Sl	Area		Type of disaster	No. of affected families	Death toll	No. of wounded
	District	Upazila				
1	Chittagong	City Corporation area	Landslide and water logging	5,000	128	213
2	Bandarban	Sadar, Lama, Alikadam, Naikhangchhari	Flash flood and landslide	2,000	2	-
3	Cox's Bazar	Chokoria, Sadar, Ramu, Teknaf, Ukhia and Pekua	Flash flood	5,000	15	2
4	Feni	Parshuram and Fulgaji	Flashflood, tornado	2,200		
5	Bogra	Kahalu, Dupchasia, Adamdighi, Nandigram	Riverine flood	28,874		
6	Nilphamari	Dimla and Jaldhaka	Riverine flood	5,000		
7	Lalmonirhat	Sadar	Tornado	1,150		
		Hatibanda	Flood	2,000		
8	Shirajgonj	Kajipur, Chowhali, Belkuchi, Shahjadpur	River erosion	2,000		
9	Kurigram	Rajibpur, Raumari, Nageswar and Sadar	River erosion and flood	17,000		
10	Moulivibazar	Kamalganj	Flash flood	1,000		
11	Brahmanbaria		Tornado	100		30
	Total			71,324	145	245

³ Sources: Assessment made by the joint assessment team comprising of Federation and BDRCS, Deputy Commissioner Office of the GoB

⁴ Sources: Met dept., FFWC and WFP BD Bulletin

⁵ Sources: Office of District Relief and Rehabilitation Officer (DRRO), Upazilla Nirbahi (Executive) Officer, Project Implementation Officer (PIO) of the GoB and joint assessment team comprising of Federation and BDRCS

⁶ Verified in Chittagong, Feni, Cox's Bazar, Bandarban, Brambaria, districts by the Federation/BDRCS assessment team

⁷ Source: Civil Surgeon Officer of GoB

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The BDRCS and the Bangladesh delegation have been closely monitoring the situation. The local units in Chittagong acted promptly by assisting the government in search and rescue operation after the disaster struck on the night of 10th June. The units also provided food from their own stock to the affected people. A team comprising of BDRCS and Federation officials from Dhaka was sent immediately to Chittagong to facilitate the operation.

Following the assessment, family kits were provided to 265 badly affected families in Chittagong. BDRCS provided food, oral rehydration solution and water purifying tablets. Several joint assessment teams comprising of BDRCS and Federation officials have been despatched to the different affected parts of the country for assessment. On June 14th, the Chairman & Secretary General of BDRCS together with Federation representation have visited the affected areas in Chittagong to console the affected and also to support the local unit in its operation.

The present government backed up by the army and the police has provided good information support on the present disaster situation. In various places the Government has taken over the control of distribution of relief items with the exception for BDRCS and Federation operation.

The Federation Delegation is in contact with various in country donors and implementers for coordination purposes. Discussions have started with UNICEF for distribution of water purifying tablet and bleaching powder and negotiations are going on with DFID on possible support. UNDP appreciated the information provided by the delegation and proposed closer collaboration in future activities. The Federation delegation is sharing information with the participating national societies in Bangladesh. Discussions are ongoing with the Swiss RC and the Consortium of EC national societies (British, German and Swedish RC).

An emergency appeal is being finalized and will be launched in the coming days, when more detailed and precise information has been gathered about the needs and scale of the affected population.

The needs

This DREF bulletin will meet the food and non-food needs of 10,000 affected families who are the most vulnerable and are suffering due to the ongoing situation. More families will be targeted when the emergency appeal is launched - this will be at least a further 40,000 families, but this figure will be verified based on the latest information available at that time.

1. Food items

The floods have devastated large areas of crops and destroyed essential food supplies of over 11,750 vulnerable families living below the poverty line. Food was mentioned as top priority by most of the flood and landslide affected people. Rice is the staple food. BDRCS intends to provide 10,000 most affected families with a supplementary food ration of 20 kgs of rice, lentils 5 kg., edible oil 2 litres and salt 1 kg.

2. Non-food items

10,000 families targeted will be provided with saris (female clothing) and lungis (male clothing).

Plan of action against the DREF allocation

- Identification of the most vulnerable beneficiaries, using the “BDRCS Disaster Relief Manual” and Federation emergency assessment guidelines, with special emphasis on gender and disability.
- Local procurement of 10,000 saris and lungis (*5,000 to be dispatched to the affected areas and 5,000 to be used to restock Dhaka and Chittagong warehouses*)
- Local procurement of food ration for 10,000 families.
- Dispatch and transportation of food ration and non-food items from BDRCS headquarters to the final destinations using the BDRCS fleet and other options.
- Assistance to the BDRCS for strengthening its management of distribution structures, especially at branch level.
- Distribution of food ration and non-food items to pre-determined beneficiaries by trained BDRCS volunteers.
- Regular detailed reporting on the distribution.
- Continuous monitoring and technical advice by the BDRCS headquarters and the Federation.

- Assistance to the BDRCS in strengthening its human and material resource capacities in the 11 branches and at national headquarters, as necessary for the operation.

DREF Budget

	Total CHF
Food ration	180,278
Saris and Lungis	50,000
Distribution and Monitoring expenses	4,464
Program Support (PSR 6.5%)	15,258
Grand Total	250,000

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 Federation's Global Agenda

The International Federation undertakes activities that 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

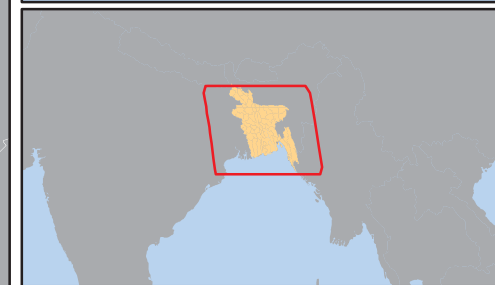
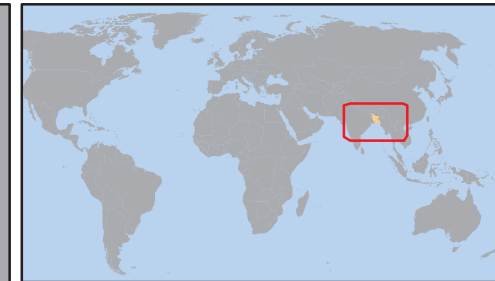
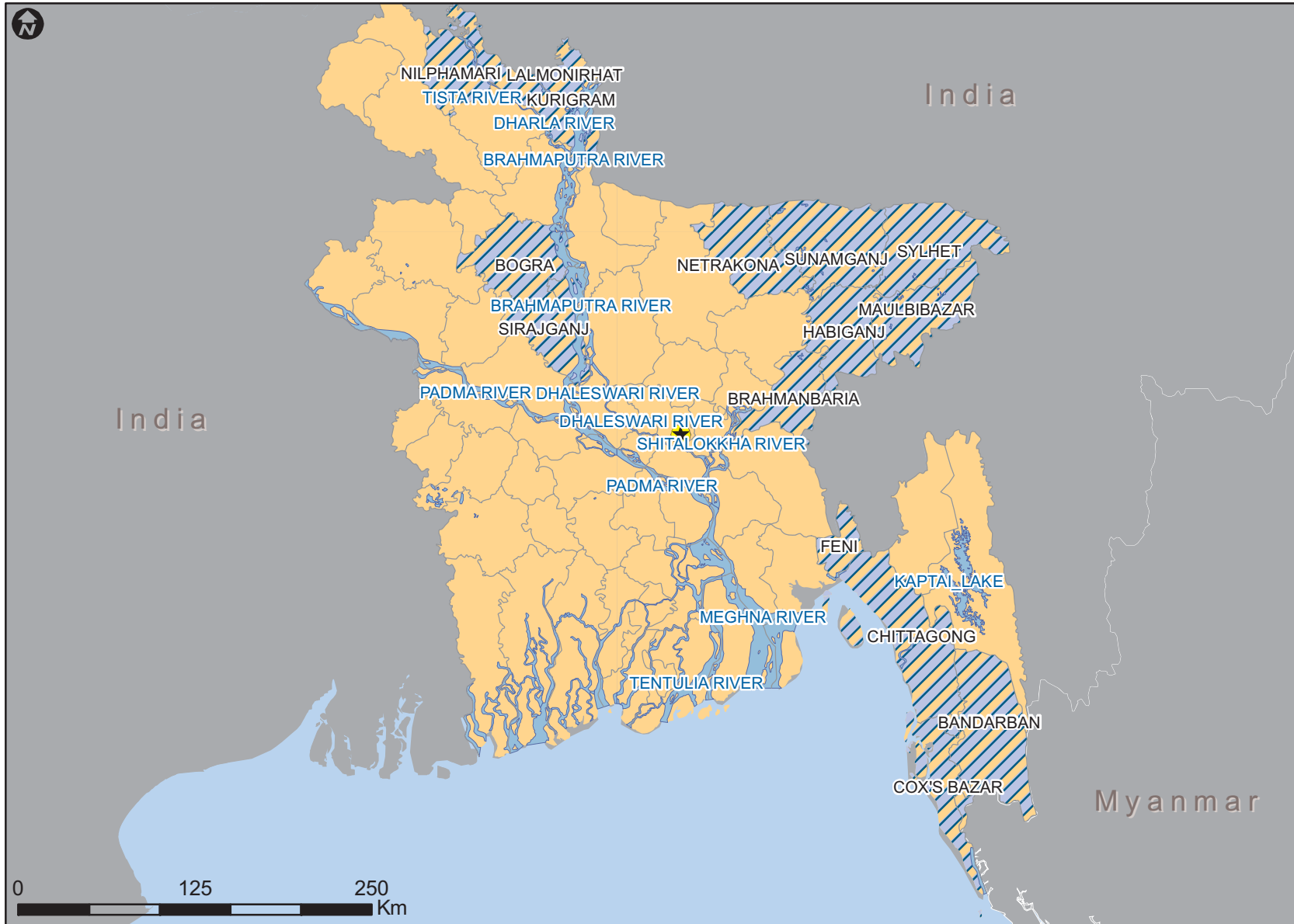
For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- Bangladesh Red Crescent Society: Mr. M. Shafiul Alam (Secretary General), email: bdrcs@bangla.net, phone: +88.02.935.2226
- Federation country delegation in Bangladesh: Mr. Selvaratnam Sinnadurai (head of delegation), email: selvaratnam.sinnadurai@ifrc.org, phone: +88.02.933.7314, fax: +88.02.934.1631
- Federation South Asia regional delegation in India: Nina Nobel (acting head of regional delegation); email: nina.nobel@ifrc.org; phone: +91.11. 2411.1125; fax: +91.11. 2411.1128
- Federation Secretariat in Geneva (Asia Pacific department): Hiroto Oyama (regional officer); email: hiroto.oyama@ifrc.org; Phone: +41.22.730.4273; Fax: +41.22.733.0395 or Gokce Balcik (senior assistant); email: gokce.balcik@ifrc.org; phone: +44.22.730.4429; fax: +41.22 733.0395

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Bangladesh: floods



- ★ Capitals
- ▨ Affected districts