

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

INDIA: FLOODS

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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

Period covered by this update: 10 October to 9 November 2007.

History of this Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF)-funded operation:

- CHF 250,000 (USD 207,641 or EUR 151,515) allocated from the Federation's DREF on 9 August 2007 to respond to the needs of this operation, and to replenish disaster preparedness stocks distributed to the affected population.
- This operation, implemented for three months, was completed by 9 November 2007; a DREF Bulletin Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 8 February 2008).

Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Programme Summary

A total of 3,339 people¹ have been killed and an estimated 57 million people² affected by the floods across the country this year. A fresh spell of floods due to heavy rainfall in the state of Andhra Pradesh, during the reporting period, resulted in 113 people killed. The state government has been active in responding to the situation, along with the Indian Red Cross Society's state and district branches (details available on the Federation's intranet - the Disaster Management Information System).

Regarding the DREF plan of action, quotations for the purchase of family packs were received on 12th October and purchase orders were placed on 2nd November. Now only the delivery and inspection of these items remains.

For further information specifically related to this operation please see contact details on last page.

Background and current situation

Typically, the monsoon season begins to recede from northern India at the beginning of October and the southern part of the country witnesses heavy rainfall during the post monsoon season. During the reporting period, the most recent spell of heavy rainfall and flash floods was in the southern coastal part of the state of Andhra Pradesh, leading to 113 people killed and approximately 50,000 people displaced in four districts.

The Thanjavur district of Tamil Nadu was also severely affected by floods during the reporting period. According to official statistics, about 598.55 hectares of paddy crop in Papanasam, Kumbakonam and Thiruvaiyaru administrative blocks were affected.

¹ Source: Ministry of Home Affairs

² Source: Indian Red Cross Society

In Bihar, the death toll rose to 967. The international non-governmental organisation, the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED), with the financial support of the European Commission, is implementing emergency relief activities in the fields of shelter construction, water and sanitation, hygiene promotion and cash for work, in order to assist the affected population in recovering from the disaster, as well as to enhance their capacity to be better prepared for future floods. In addition to its field activities, ACTED will also support the wider flood response operation by promoting the use of geographic information system mapping among stakeholders working in the area of emergency response.

In Assam, an indigenous floating flood shelter has been developed by a local resource person. This flood relief camp capsule is a portable structure with a collapsible camp system, which takes approximately two hours to assemble and has virtually no maintenance cost.

In Orissa the state government has sought interim financial assistance of INR 7.5 billion (USD 191 million or CHF 214 million) from the central government, for immediate relief and rehabilitation activities in the twelve districts affected by the floods.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

During the reporting period, the IRCS's state and district branches were active in responding to the recent floods in Andhra Pradesh. They mobilised about 80 volunteers in one of the affected districts and distributed 800 food packets.

The flood response during this year was one of the most well structured operations. The process was initiated with the formation of a national task force, under the leadership of the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) Secretary General, on 27th June, to monitor and mobilise resources to effectively respond to the floods and also ensure that updated information was shared with partners. Regular monitoring visits were undertaken by the IRCS national headquarter staff to affected districts. This included a review visit by the Secretary General, accompanied by a joint team comprising of Federation and IRCS members, to the national society's state branch in Orissa. The total response of the IRCS, from its own resources, can be summed up as cumulatively released non-food family packs worth approximately CHF 1.7 million to 12 affected states in the country.

The DREF operation was closed on 9th November and the entire money budgeted has been committed, with payments due at regular intervals. The process of booking these expenses is ongoing, so that the deadline to submit the final report (8 February 2008) is met.

Developments of the DREF plan of action

The table below indicates the breakdown of items proposed for procurement as disaster preparedness stock replenishment and other operational costs associated with the current floods response:

Items	Total cost (CHF)
Procurement of family packs (5,100 packs, at approx.. CHF 39.39 each)	200,889
Operational cost for relief distribution	24,252
Local purchase of bleaching powder in Andhra Pradesh	708
Loading and uploading of 2 water and sanitation units to Bihar	1,666
Inspection cost	3,182
Visibility material (banners and flags)	2,753
Flood review visit to Orissa and future review visits	2,753
Sub-total	233,750
Programme service recovery (6.5% total)	16,250
Total	250,000

A request for quotation (dated 24th September), for purchase of 10,000 pieces of family packs, was sent out to 19 prospective suppliers with a deadline of 12th October. This was done as a joint bid with the Federation and the British Red Cross. A procurement committee was formed, with representation from the IRCS, Federation's India Office and South Asian Regional Delegation, and the British Red Cross. The opening of these bids was done on 12th October in New Delhi. Sealed offers were received from nine companies and opened in the presence of the procurement committee. A comparative bid analysis was prepared for each of the items, after evaluation of all the offers received and visual inspection of the samples.

Although initially the plan was to purchase 5,100 family packs, due to decrease in rates it has been possible to order 5,500 family packs. A purchase order for the procurement of 5,500 family packs was placed on 2nd November. The complete delivery of 5,500 family packs should be completed within 60 days of placing the order and will be stored at IRCS's regional warehouse in Bahadurgarh. An inspection agency has been appointed according to Federation specifications.

Besides the first item in the budget table, the rest of the items were already carried out and reported back in the previous updates.

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's activities are aligned with under a 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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