

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Bangladesh: Floods

Emergency appeal n° MDRBD002
GLIDE FF-2007-000080-BGD
Operations update n° 13
8 August 2008

Period covered by this Operations Update:
19 May 2008 to 18 July 2008

Revised appeal target: CHF 5.095 million (USD 4.99 million or EUR 3.17 million)

Appeal coverage: 92 %; Outstanding needs: CHF 261,142 (USD 256,021 or EUR 162,200).

[<click here for the Revised Appeal Budget>](#)
[<click here for the Interim Financial Report>](#)
[<click here for the Emergency Appeal>](#)

Appeal history:

- Emergency Appeal budget revised in June 2008 for CHF 5,095,836 (USD 4.99 million or EUR 3.17 million)
- An Emergency Appeal launched on 3 July 2007 for CHF 842,257 (USD 684,762 or EUR 510,459) for six months to assist 133,255 beneficiaries.
- Emergency Appeal revised on 16 August 2007 to focus on the floods. The budget was increased to CHF 7,113,119 (USD 5,907,905 or EUR 4,310,980) for eight months to assist 1,200,000 beneficiaries due to the deteriorating situation.
- Appeal was extended for another six months till 3 September 2008 on 2 April 2008. It was done to implement activities delayed by the Cyclone Sidr operation and also due to further response to the appeal by the donor.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) allocated on 20 June 2007: CHF 250,000

Summary:

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) with assistance from the Federation has implemented and completed all activities that were planned and initiated under flood 2007 appeal. The appeal budget has been revised in June 2008, based on the availability of funds and the activities which have been completed so far. The revised budget has not altered the main objectives of the relief operation, but beneficiary numbers have amended accordingly.

A total of 67,500 of the most vulnerable and unassisted families in 42 districts benefited from the distribution of basic food and non-food items while 65,200 families in 61 districts received blankets. A total of 50,220 families received basic health care services. Implementation of the water and sanitation project, along with hygiene promotion and livelihood support to the most vulnerable families, was successfully carried out before the end of March 2008. Due to unspent funds, money gained through exchange rate fluctuations and the procurement of commodities at lower prices, the floods operation has been extended. Thus, new activities were planned and will be carried out by the end of 2008.

The procurement process to replenish the buffer stock of non-food relief items for future use is in progress. Some of the commodities are expected to arrive within the next few weeks. Basic emergency rescue kits and first aid boxes are being procured for distribution among the disaster-prone districts. Basic health care and



First aid and rescue kits are checked to maintain the requirement standard during procurement process

water and sanitation activities were completed as planned. Plans have been developed for supporting the most vulnerable families with shelter materials and the final approval from the BDRCS governance. Plans for procuring two vehicles for BDRCS, including an ambulance and refurbishing one of the national society's trucks into a multipurpose emergency response unit, are under way.

The planned lessons learned workshops of the 2007 floods, including orientation of the Red Cross red Crescent Movement and Code of Conduct, amongst other topics, have been rescheduled to 3 and 10 August 2008. Each workshop will last for three days. Due to conflicting schedules, the dates of the workshops changed several times in the past.

<For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal at <http://www.ifrc.org>>

The situation

While many of the beneficiaries of the 2007 floods relief operation have yet to recover from the impact of the loss of crops, another challenge is threatening their survival: the spiralling prices of essential commodities and basic staple food items. In early 2008, the prices of basic staple food items and fuel started rising and continued to do so throughout the reporting period. The families of the beneficiaries who received wheat seeds are happy with the harvest. These families have wheat flour to meet their needs and saved some mother seeds for the next season. The families that received paddy seeds seem contented with the harvest of new paddy and seeds for future cultivation. The saplings distributed to the 11,200 flood-affected families are growing well with extra care and frequent watering that was needed during the summer season. When the saplings grow, they are expected to benefit the families and the communities on long-term basis by providing fruits, preventing soil erosion and reducing the impact of climate change.

The 2008 monsoon has already started its fury in some parts of the country. Cox's Bazar district at the south-eastern part of the country experienced flash floods and landslides in early July killing 16 people. Three more were killed when a wall collapsed during the third week of July in Comilla district in the east. The BDRCS cyclone preparedness programme. (CPP) volunteers were the first responders during the landslides in Cox's Bazar district along with the community members. The CPP volunteers conducted a search and rescue operation and rescued one person and recovered two dead, buried deep in the mud. This brave and selfless hard work of the volunteers was highly appreciated by local government authorities and other humanitarian agencies. Landslide, flash floods and volunteers' activities were updated in the International Federation's disaster management information system (DMIS). Though at time of writing, the rainfall has not been very heavy, some parts of the country has experienced incessant rains on several occasions. Looking at the pattern of rainfall and from past experiences, it is predicted that the country might experience moderate monsoons this year.

Coordination and partnerships

In mid-May, the European Commission Humanitarian Office (ECHO) organized a day-long lessons learnt workshop with all relevant partners in Bangladesh. The objective of the workshop was to review and evaluate the implementation process of ECHO-supported activities by the partners during the 2007 floods and identify the areas to be improved for better future intervention. Representatives of the country delegation actively participated in the workshop by sharing their experiences.

Hong Kong Red Cross (HKRC) responded to the 2007 flood appeal by donating CHF 148,899.50 (USD 141,086 or EUR 91,168) earmarked for food and non-food material distribution to the most vulnerable floods-affected families. The distribution was completed in February this year, with BDRCS, with support from the International Federation, providing food ration, sarees (for women) and lungis (for men) to 4,000 of the most vulnerable families. A report based on the guidelines stated in the pledge management note was shared with HKRC by the end of June.

Red Cross Red Crescent action

Overall objective: The urgent needs (health and care, water and sanitation, food and non-food items, clothing, household items, shelter etc.) of 197,670 unassisted families (988,350 people) are met, the outbreak of disease is prevented and early recovery needs are supported, while BDRCS capacity is enhanced.

Objective 1: 182,970 severely-affected and unassisted families (914,850 people) receive additional emergency food rations and essential non-food items.

Relief distribution under the flood response was completed in March this year and was highly appreciated by all concerned, especially by the beneficiaries and the government due to the quality and quantity of the materials and

the dignity with which they were distributed. A revised plan and extension of the operation was granted by the Secretariat. Procurement of 10,000 sarees (clothing for women), 10,000 lungis (clothing for men) and 16,240 family kits to be stockpiled as buffer stock for future emergency response is underway. A total of 70 sets of rescue kits containing strong ropes, saw, hammer, cutting pliers, helmets and flash lights and 70 first aid boxes are procured for distribution among the branches situated in districts that are frequently prone to floods. These kits will be handy during the disaster response operations carried out by the volunteers immediately after disasters. A total of 6,850 pieces of blankets will also be procured to be used as buffer stock.

For the extension of the operation, the plan is to provide material for the installation of 1,500 individual latrines and the installation 500 raised tube wells in 24 flood-prone districts. This will ensure that the targeted flood-affected population will have access to safe drinking water and sanitary facilities during future floods. During floods, the affected population temporarily take shelter in flood shelters/centres, public buildings and schools. Almost all of these centres do not have sufficient sanitary facilities and some are in unusable condition. BDRCS plans to construct 50 community latrines at such temporary shelter sites equipped with washing areas and improve/raised platforms for tube wells. All the districts for intervention have been identified by BDRCS and International Federation. Construction of these community latrines is pending as the BDRCS governing board is in the process of giving its approval.

Objective 2: Basic health care services (including preventive and promotive health) are provided to 50,220 families (251,100 people) of the most severely-affected population for two and half months.

As planned, activities under this objective were implemented. Basic health care was provided to 20,964 needy patients including 10,217 children below five years of age around Dhaka city. Necessary support, including providing safe drinking water, was given to 40,320 families for 10-15days during the emergency period. In addition, through the ECHO-supported activities 5,500 families from four districts received safe drinking water and sanitation facilities by repairing tube wells, installing new raised tube wells and new raised latrines. Modified ECHO-supported activities provided raised sanitary latrines, community latrine and raised tube wells and water and sanitation kits to 4,400 families.

Objective 3: 14,700 families severely affected by the floods will receive the necessary construction materials for damaged houses and/or livelihoods support, through in kind goods.

The livelihood assistance helped provide adequate food to the selected beneficiaries for the next few months. The beneficiaries appreciated the wheat and paddy seeds distributed as they were of high quality, and the families have saved some mother seeds for the next cultivation season. The farmers also received five types of saplings and some of the saplings have grown to yield mango fruits during this season. The present moderate monsoon is very helpful for the growth of the saplings.

Thousands of families lost their dwelling places in the 2007 floods due to river erosion and breaches in the river embankment. Many of those families are still living in makeshift shelters. Prices of shelter construction materials have increased by more than double. Additionally, the ongoing monsoon season has not allowed these families to have proper shelters, resulting in them being more vulnerable to rain and floods. BDRCS, along with the International Federation country delegation, has finalized its plan to provide a package of shelter construction materials to 3,500 families spread over 24 districts that were affected during the 2007 floods. The plan awaits the final decision of the national society governance. The proposed package of shelter materials consist of 16 pieces of corrugated zinc sheets, three pieces of ridges, a box of nails and basic tools to support the construction. This component is an outcome of the revised emergency appeal.

Objective 4: The enhancement of capacity of BDRCS to respond effectively to disasters.

Under this component, workshops were proposed to enhance the capacity of BDRCS to respond to disasters efficiently. However, the workshops had been rescheduled numerous times due to various reasons including scheduling conflict with other BDRCS activities during the same period and non-availability of external facilitators. There are currently two workshops, each lasting three days, planned. In each of these workshops, two BDRCS personnel will participate from 12 flood-affected units. The first workshop will start on 3 August and the second on 10 August.

While aiming to enhance the capacity of the BDRCS units to respond to disaster more efficiently and effectively, the participants will also have an opportunity to refresh their knowledge on the basic Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and its components, the Fundamental Principles, Code of Conduct, Sphere Project, basic disaster preparedness and response and BRDCS relief manual. The external facilitator will be supporting sessions on

lessons learnt from the 2007 floods. This will be important for the participants to measure the effectiveness of the assistance rendered, what went well, what didn't work so well and areas to be improved.

Communications – Advocacy and public information

All efforts were taken to disseminate the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement's Fundamental Principles and Code of Conduct among the communities, government and other humanitarian players in the field during relevant meetings. The press reports on the brave search and rescue activities carried out by the BDRCS cyclone preparedness programme volunteers during recent landslides gave a huge visibility to BDRCS among other stake holders.

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 International Federation's activities 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.
- 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.
- South Asia regional delegation in Delhi: Mr. Al Panico (head of regional delegation), email: al.panico@ifrc.org, phone: +91 11 2411 1122, fax: +91 11 2411 1128.
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**[<Revised Appeal budget and Interim financial report below;
click here to return to the title page>](#)**

REVISED BUDGET SUMMARY

Annex 2

Bangladesh : Floods, Landslides & Tornados

MDRBD002

	ORIGINAL CHF	REVISED CHF	VARIANCE CHF
<u>RELIEF NEEDS</u>			
Shelter	648,148	833,333	-185,185
Clothing & Textiles	1,333,333	715,771	617,562
Food	2,929,630	1,206,122	1,723,508
Seeds & Plants	92,593	127,119	-34,526
Water & Sanitation	270,335	434,831	-164,496
Medical & First Aid	104,319	8,475	95,844
Utensils & Tools	259,259		259,259
Other Supplies & Services	129,630	475,201	-345,571
Total Relief Needs	5,767,247	3,800,852	1,966,395
<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>			
Vehicles Purchase	74,074	138,983	-64,909
Computers & Telecom Equipment	16,111	11,864	4,247
Office/Household Furniture & Equip.	25,370	12,627	12,743
<u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES</u>			
Storage - Warehouse	85,056	29,902	55,154
Distribution & Monitoring	110,444	50,390	60,054
Transport & Vehicles Costs	72,667	109,153	-36,486
<u>PERSONNEL</u>			
International Staff	214,400	257,400	-43,000
Regionally Deployed Staff	33,600	1,650	31,950
National Staff	33,111	51,254	-18,143
National Society Staff	68,444	68,678	-234
Consultants		3,150	-3,150
<u>WORKSHOPS & TRAINING</u>			
Workshops & Training	13,889	32,771	-18,882
<u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u>			
Travel	71,630	29,831	41,799
Information & Public Relations	24,907	25,593	-686
Office running costs	21,111	51,525	-30,414
Communication Costs	13,333	23,729	-10,396
Financial Charges	1,667	59,322	-57,655
Other General Expenses	3,704	5,933	-2,229
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>			
Programme Support - PSR	462,353	331,229	131,124
Total Operational Needs	1,345,871	1,294,984	50,887
Total Appeal Budget (Cash & Kind)	7,113,118	5,095,836	2,017,282
Less : Available Resources	662,038	4,834,694	
Net Request in CHF	6,451,080	261,142	

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRBD002 - Bangladesh - Floods, Landslides, Tornados

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/6-2008/6
Budget Timeframe	2007/6-2008/9
Appeal	MDRBD002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	5,095,836					5,095,836
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
American Red Cross	150,535					150,535
Australian Red Cross	15,076					15,076
Australian Red Cross (from Australian Government)	368,862					368,862
Bangladesh - Private Donors	16,006					16,006
British Red Cross	475,307					475,307
Canadian Red Cross	86,130					86,130
Danish Red Cross	102,835					102,835
ECHO	664,000					664,000
Finnish Red Cross	279,600					279,600
German Red Cross	131,710					131,710
Hong Kong Red Cross	165,496					165,496
Irish Government	328,800					328,800
Japanese Red Cross	314,786					314,786
Korea Republic Red Cross	50,000					50,000
Liechtenstein Red Cross	18,433					18,433
Monaco Red Cross	16,500					16,500
Netherlands Red Cross	513,510					513,510
New York Office (from Kraft Foods)	13,125					13,125
New York Office (from Western Union Foundation)	35,001					35,001
Norwegian Red Cross	98					98
On Line donations	17,516					17,516
Other	1,144					1,144
Singapore Red Cross	4,221					4,221
Singapore Red Cross (from Singapore Government)	23,921					23,921
Swedish Red Cross	109,140					109,140
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)	179,400					179,400
Swiss Red Cross	100,000					100,000
United Arab Emirates Red Crescent	12,282					12,282
United States - Private Donors	1,328					1,328
VERF/WHO Voluntary Emergency Relief	2,000					2,000
C1. Cash contributions	4,196,759					4,196,759
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
ECHO	161,000					161,000
Intel Foundation	51,000					51,000
OPEC Fund For International Developm	255,000					255,000
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	467,000					467,000
<u>Inkind Goods & Transport</u>						
Norwegian Red Cross	1,709					1,709
C3. Inkind Goods & Transport	1,709					1,709
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
Other	17,600					17,600
C4. Inkind Personnel	17,600					17,600
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	4,683,068					4,683,068
D. Total Funding = B +C	4,683,068					4,683,068

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/6-2008/6
Budget Timeframe	2007/6-2008/9
Appeal	MDRBD002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

Appeal Coverage	92%				92%
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II. Balance of Funds

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	4,683,068					4,683,068
E. Expenditure	-2,758,389					-2,758,389
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	1,924,678					1,924,678

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/6-2008/6
Budget Timeframe	2007/6-2008/9
Appeal	MDRBD002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance A - B
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		5,095,836					5,095,836	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	833,330						833,330	
Clothing & textiles	716,018	618,203				618,203	97,815	
Food	1,206,227	1,193,753				1,193,753	12,474	
Seeds,Plants	127,050	127,682				127,682	-632	
Water & Sanitation	434,720	96,093				96,093	338,627	
Medical & First Aid	8,475	5,709				5,709	2,765	
Other Supplies & Services	475,025	121,618				121,618	353,406	
Total Supplies	3,800,844	2,163,059				2,163,059	1,637,786	
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles	138,983						138,983	
Computers & Telecom	22,455	3,489				3,489	18,966	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.	2,034	23				23	2,011	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	163,472	3,512				3,512	159,960	
Transport & Storage								
Storage	35,328	21,207				21,207	14,121	
Distribution & Monitoring	44,984	44,615				44,615	369	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	109,157	15,596				15,596	93,560	
Total Transport & Storage	189,468	81,418				81,418	108,050	
Personnel								
International Staff	257,400	142,492				142,492	114,908	
Regionally Deployed Staff	1,650	1,650				1,650	0	
National Staff	51,250	36,133				36,133	15,117	
National Society Staff	68,679	18,390				18,390	50,289	
Consultants	3,150	3,150				3,150	0	
Total Personnel	382,129	201,815				201,815	180,314	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	32,772	9,822				9,822	22,949	
Total Workshops & Training	32,772	9,822				9,822	22,949	
General Expenditure								
Travel	29,824	17,454				17,454	12,370	
Information & Public Relation	25,595	11,446				11,446	14,149	
Office Costs	51,525	19,481				19,481	32,043	
Communications	23,723	13,452				13,452	10,272	
Financial Charges	59,322	34,609				34,609	24,713	
Other General Expenses	5,932	738				738	5,195	
Total General Expenditure	195,922	97,179				97,179	98,742	
Programme Support								
Program Support	331,229	178,568				178,568	152,661	
Total Programme Support	331,229	178,568				178,568	152,661	
Services								
Services & Recoveries		9,739				9,739	-9,739	
Total Services		9,739				9,739	-9,739	
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		13,277				13,277	-13,277	
Total Operational Provisions		13,277				13,277	-13,277	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	5,095,836	2,758,389				2,758,389	2,337,447	
VARIANCE (C - D)		2,337,447				2,337,447		