

DREF operation final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Bangladesh: Cold Wave

DREF operation n° MDRBD005
GLIDE n° **CW-2010-000013BGD**
Final Report
January-March, 2010

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent's (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the IFRC in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the IFRC's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

Summary: CHF 219,317 (USD 210,914 or EUR 148,704) was allocated from IFRC's DREF on 21 January 2010 to support the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) in delivering immediate assistance to 50,000 people (approximately 10,000 families). At the Final Financial Report ([click here to see the Final Financial Report](#)), expenditure is reported at CHF 200, 990 (USD 182, 140 or EUR 147, 868); and the balance of CHF 18, 327 (EUR 13, 483 or USD 16, 608) has been paid back to DREF.

The northern and south-western part of Bangladesh experienced a severe cold wave from mid December 2009 till the end of January 2010. Due to the heavy fog and severe cold the agricultural and fisheries sector suffered. The chilling cold weather also had an adverse impact on peoples' health. Poor people in the northern part of the country suffered the most. BDRCS with support from IFRC responded swiftly to the cold wave. BDRCS and IFRC distributed 48,000 blankets from BDRCS' existing disaster preparedness (DP) stocks. With the DREF allocation BDRCS and IFRC provided packages of warm clothing to 10,000 families. The warm clothing package contained two blankets, one shawl, one woollen cap, one saree and one lungi. Three major items in the package: the blankets, shawls, and woollen caps, were procured by following the IFRC procurement procedure. Other items in the package were dispatched from DP stock. All items were replenished by mid April, 2010 using DREF money.



BDRCS distributing warm clothes at Pirganj upazila, Rangpur. Photo credit: IFRC

Packages of warm clothing were distributed to 10,000 people, the packages helped keep the poor and homeless people warm from the bitter cold of January, 2010.

The DREF allocation has been replenished by: the European Commission Humanitarian Aid department (80 per cent) and the Canadian Red Cross and Canadian government (20). Details of all donors can be found at the following URL:

<http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref/donors.asp>

IFRC, on behalf of BDRCS, would like to thank both the donors and partners for their generous support of the DREF.

[<click here for the final financial report or here, to view contact details>](#)

The situation

Bangladesh experienced a rapid fall in temperature during the first week of January 2010. This has had an adverse impact on daily life, as well as on the agricultural sector and the fisheries in the country. Poor people struggled to fight off the bitter cold at night as they do not have sufficient warm clothing. (There were reports of people wrapping themselves with gunny, plastic bags, torn kantha, and mosquito nets). In addition, a number of people suffered from respiratory illnesses as well.

During the second week of January 2010, some parts of the country experienced temperatures as low as 7.7°C. Officially it was reported that 135 people died in the cold wave while hospitals in the affected districts reported higher numbers of admissions with cold related illnesses.

BDRCS and IFRC responded swiftly to address the needs of the affected peoples. They distributed 48,000 blankets in the affected areas from disaster preparedness (DP) stock. In Dhaka city alone, BDRCS distributed 500 blankets to the homeless people. Local Red Crescent Youth (RCY) volunteers in Chittagong and Satkhira units distributed 200 blankets and 100 pieces of warm clothing and used garments to the homeless people in Chittagong City and the Satkhira Sadar area. In addition, BDRCS's branches collected warm clothes and distributed them to those who were affected. The Bangladesh government and other humanitarian agencies and organizations including the UNDP, also distributed blankets and warm clothes to the affected people.

IFRC and BDRCS provided packages of warm clothing to 10,000 families with monies allocated from IFRC's DREF. The distribution of 10,000 packages of warm clothes in ten cold wave affected districts was completed by 11 February 2010. Following the distribution, IFRC, BDRCS officials from BDRCS' national headquarters (NHQ), and representatives from the European Commission Humanitarian Aid department's Head of Delegation in Dhaka visited two districts from 10-11 March for post distribution monitoring.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Progress towards objectives

BDRCS and the IFRC closely monitored overall developments of the cold wave situation. Timely updates on the cold wave and BDRCS response were provided through the disaster management information system (DMIS).

DREF contributions were used to provide packages of warm clothes to 10,000 families in the affected ten districts. The BDRCS unit level officers, the unit executive committee, and local Red Crescent volunteers actively took part in distribution activities for the affected people.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: 50,000 severely affected people or 10,000 families receive a package of warm clothing (two blankets, one saree, one lungi, one shawl and one woollen cap) in ten districts.

Activities planned:

- Door to door assessments
- Beneficiary registration
- Local procurement of some items according to IFRC standard procedures
- Dispatch and transportation by BDRCS to the distribution sites
- Storage and distribution of relief items, especially at unit level
- Distribution by trained Red Crescent Youth volunteers
- Regular detailed monitoring and reporting of distributions
- Ongoing monitoring and technical advice by the BDRCS national headquarters and the IFRC.

Progress:

The distribution of packages of warm clothing to 10,000 families in the ten affected districts was successfully completed by 11 February 2010. Three major items in the package: the blankets, shawls, and woollen caps were procured, following IFRC's procurement procedure with technical approval from the Regional Logistics Unit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The rest of the items in the package were

dispatched from DP stock. Prior to the distribution, the standard quality inspection was done by BDRCS's and the IFRC's logistics and disaster management teams. BDRCS deployed ten officers from its headquarters to assist respective units for the registration of beneficiaries and physical distribution of relief items. They also helped the branches coordinate with government and other stakeholders, by preventing duplication and an overlapping of resources. The respective unit executive committees, unit level officers and unit level volunteers were actively involved in the entire distribution process. Trained volunteers did the beneficiary selection process through door-to-door assessment. From the IFRC side, two field monitoring officers were recruited for the short-term and deployed in targeted districts to assist BDRCS in relief distribution and distribution monitoring. In addition to the team deployed, two teams comprising of BDRCS and IFRC disaster management personnel were in the field to monitor the beneficiary registration and card distribution. They also observed the distribution and provided assistance based on needs at the distribution points.

District wise distribution status is shown in the table given below:

Sl. No	District	Upazila	Beneficiary selection		Distribution date	No. of family	Status
			Start	Complete	Start		
1	Panchagar	Tentulia	25.01.10	29.01.10	8.02.10	300	Done
		Debiganj			6.02.10	400	Done
		Atwari			5.02.10	300	Done
Total number of families assisted in this district						1,000	
2	Thagurgaon	Baliadangi	25.01.10	30.01.10	6.02.10	400	Done
		Haripur			7.02.10	300	Done
		Ranisenkail			7.02.10	300	Done
Total number of families assisted in this district						1,000	
3	Nilphamari	Dimla	25.01.10	29.01.10	4.02.10	500	Done
		Jaldhaka			3.02.10	500	Done
Total number of families assisted in this district						1,000	
4	Dinajupur	Biral	25.01.10	30.01.10	6.02.10	500	Done
		Fulbari			7.02.10	500	Done
Total number of families assisted in this district						1,000	
5	Lalmonirhat	Hatibandha	25.01.10	28.01.10	6.02.10	400	Done
		Patgram			6.02.10	300	Done
		Aditmari			7.02.10	300	Done
Total number of families assisted in this district						1,000	
6	Kurigram	Roumari	25.01.10	30.01.10	5.02.10	250	Done
		Chilmari			5.02.10	50	Done
		Chilmari			6.02.10	250	Done
		Ulipur			6.02.10	450	Done
Total number of families assisted in this district						1,000	
7	Gaibandha	Fulchari	25.01.10	11.02.10	8.2.10	200	Done
		Sundarganj			8.2.10	200	Done
		Saghata			8.2.10	200	Done
		Gabindaganj			8.2.10	200	Done
		Sadullapur			9.2.10	200	Done
Total number of families assisted in this district						1,000	
8	Rangpur	Gangachara	25.01.10	29.01.10	4.02.10	500	Done

		Pirganj			5.02.10	500	Done
Total number of families assisted in this district						1,000	
9	Chuadanga	Damurhuda	25.01.10	3.02.10	6.02.10	400	Done
		Sadar			10.02.10	200	Done
		Jiban nagar			9. 02.10	400	Done
Total number of families assisted in this district						1,000	
10	Magura	Sadar	25.01.10	9.02.10	11.02.10	500	Done
		Sripur			11.02.10	500	
Total number of families assisted in this district						1,000	
Grand Total						10,000	

The European Commission Humanitarian Aid department's Head of Delegation in Dhaka along with IFRC and BDRCS's representatives from NHQ visited some of the targeted remote villages of Lalmonirhat and Rangpur districts from 10-11 March 2010. They had meetings with the beneficiaries. At the meetings the beneficiaries expressed their satisfaction with timely distribution and the content of the packages.

An urgent short tender notice was published in the newspaper for the procurement and delivery of 20,000 blankets, 10,000 shawls and 10,000 woollen caps. A joint team of IFRC and BDRCS personnel inspected the quality of the goods before sending them to the respective BDRCS units for the distribution.

Initially the sarees and lungies were used from buffer stock. These were replenished later on. The procurement was finalized after opening a tender following the comparative bid analysis. The replenishment process was completed by 15 April 2010

Challenges:

- Many of the most vulnerable people who were affected by the cold wave live in extremely remote areas of Bangladesh. It was very difficult to reach them.
- Some of the unit executive committees of the targeted districts were newly elected and formed. They had little experience in disaster response. So first they were oriented on the Movement and the disaster response process. This caused delays in distribution of the relief items.
- Replenishment of DP stock took more time than anticipated since in the first instance all the pre-supply samples of the sarees failed the quality tests -- retendering was done for 10,000 sarees.

Conclusion

IFRC and BDRCS were able to distribute the packages of warm clothing as per the planned schedule. It was a timely initiative. Though there were some challenges; the pro-activeness and positive attitude of unit level volunteers and members of the executive committee helped to achieve the objective. A total of 10,000 distressed families received the packages. People expressed their satisfaction on the quality and quantity of the packages. IFRC's logistics and disaster management teams provided full support for completing the DREF operation. BDRCS deployed ten officers from its NHQ to assist respective units in distributing the packages. This initiative from NHQ helped the newly formed executive committees in building their capacity on disaster response. The committee members received quick orientation on the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and relief distribution. BDRCS and IFRC have regularly maintained liaison and coordination with the government of Bangladesh and other humanitarian agencies in order to prevent duplication and overlapping of resources.

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 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.

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.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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[<final financial report below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRBD005 - Bangladesh - Cold Wave

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/1-2010/5
Budget Timeframe	2010/1-2010/3
Appeal	MDRBD005
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	219,318					219,318
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>Voluntary Income</i>	219,317					219,317
C6. Other Income	219,317					219,317
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	219,317					219,317
D. Total Funding = B + C	219,317					219,317
Appeal Coverage	100%					100%

II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	219,317					219,317
E. Expenditure	-200,990					-200,990
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	18,327					18,327

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Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/1-2010/5
Budget Timeframe	2010/1-2010/3
Appeal	MDRBD005
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		219,318					219,318	
Supplies								
Clothing & textiles	176,900	167,514				167,514	9,386	
Total Supplies	176,900	167,514				167,514	9,386	
Transport & Storage								
Storage	769						769	
Distribution & Monitoring	10,800	5,459				5,459	5,341	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	7,369	7,783				7,783	-414	
Total Transport & Storage	18,938	13,242				13,242	5,696	
Personnel								
National Staff		13				13	-13	
National Society Staff	3,846	6,055				6,055	-2,209	
Total Personnel	3,846	6,068				6,068	-2,222	
General Expenditure								
Travel	3,077	256				256	2,821	
Information & Public Relation	1,070	433				433	637	
Office Costs	769	754				754	15	
Communications	308	302				302	5	
Financial Charges	154	153				153	0	
Total General Expenditure	5,377	1,899				1,899	3,479	
Programme Support								
Program Support	14,256	12,267				12,267	1,989	
Total Programme Support	14,256	12,267				12,267	1,989	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	219,318	200,990				200,990	18,328	
VARIANCE (C - D)		18,328				18,328		