

DREF operation update

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Bangladesh: Landslides

DREF operation n°MDRBD007
GLIDE n° [FL-2010-001140-BGD](#)
Update n° 1
1 July 2010

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

CHF 125,874 (USD 113,575 or EUR 91,697) was allocated from IFRC's DREF on 22 June 2010 to support the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) in delivering immediate assistance to 1,300 families (approximately 6,500 people). Un-earmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Period covered by this update: 23-29 June 2010

Summary:

On 15 June 2010, heavy rainfall caused devastating landslides and floods took place in two south-eastern districts of Bangladesh: Cox's Bazaar and Bandarban. At least 55 people were killed and thousands of houses collapsed due to the mudslides and flash floods triggered by the excessive rainfall. Heavy rain also damaged standing crops and shrimp cultivation farms. Roads and communication systems in Cox's Bazaar were disrupted as most of the roads were flooded.



Beneficiaries with identification in hand at the Ukhia upazila waiting in queue for the distribution of non-food items (Photo: IFRC)

The BDRCS branch in Cox's Bazaar immediately responded to the disaster. Staff members and volunteers helped the respective local authorities in the search and rescue operation. The branch office also distributed dry food and drinking water among the affected people. BDRCS and IFRC's DIPECHO programme staff jointly conducted a rapid assessment. Following the assessment findings, BDRCS and IFRC completed the distribution of non-food item (NFI) packages along with shelter materials among the 1,300 families of Teknaf and Ukhia *upazilas* of the Cox's

Bazaar district by 29 June 2010. According to planned activities under the DREF operation, supplementary food packages will be distributed among the selected families with distribution starting from the second week of July 2010.

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The situation

Heavy rainfall accompanied with gusty winds occurred in many places of the south-eastern districts of Cox's Bazaar and Bandarban in Bangladesh throughout 14 and 15 June 2010. The meteorological office in Dhaka reported that the Cox's Bazaar district and adjacent areas had more than 18 inches (461 mm) of rain between 12 and 15 June. Consequently, a series of devastating landslides and flash floods happened in different parts of Cox's Bazaar and Bandarban on 15 June 2010. Up to 55 people have been reported dead and more than 100 people injured in landslides. To date, 12 people are still missing.

This excessive rainfall has caused significant damage to houses, forcing people to move to safer places and seek shelter in temporary settlements. According to the government, the damages were mainly to housing, roads and bridges.

On 16 June, local administration representatives and the BDRCS branch in Cox's Bazaar conducted a situation assessment. The reports showed that 2,797 families have been badly affected and 8,229 families, partially affected by the landslides and flash floods. In Teknaf, 455 affected families have been accommodated in schools. Most of the villages under the Pankhali, Ukhia, Pakua and Teknaf union in Cox's Bazaar were submerged in floodwaters. Over 2,500 acres of shrimp enclosures were submerged, and shrimp harvests estimated at BDT 100,000,000 (some CHF 1.6 million) have been swept away. Household items, including cooking facilities, utensils and food stocks were also washed away.

The central government immediately allocated BDT 1,600,000 (CHF 25,787) and 150 tonnes of rice to the affected people while the Bandarban district administration allocated BDT 20,000 (CHF 322) to the affected families.

The BDRCS's local branch deployed their volunteers in the aftermath of the disaster to evacuate people to safer places, such as schools and other public buildings. With support from IFRC and staff members from the DIPECHO programme, BDRCS's headquarters have sent a team to conduct a joint rapid assessment. According to the findings of the assessment, immediate needs include food, clothing, emergency shelter materials and household items, followed by early recovery assistance in the form of transitional shelter materials to rebuild destroyed homes.

As of 29 June, BDRCS and IFRC have already distributed non-food item packages to 1,300 families. Each package consists of one sari, one lungi, one jerry can for water, one hygiene parcel, water purification tablets and oral rehydration saline solution, and one tarpaulin.

Coordination and partnerships

BDRCS local units are working in coordination with local authorities in order to facilitate the exchange of information on the damage and needs of the affected population; and response by the government. Both the national society and IFRC are in communication with traditional working partners, including the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid department (DG ECHO) for possible support.

BDRCS and IFRC have reviewed the stocks of non-food items (NFI) available for dispatch to the affected districts. Since BDRCS/IFRC are active members of the disaster emergency response (DER) group chaired by the Ministry of Food and Disaster Management, information and operations updates will be shared with other humanitarian agencies and government departments to avoid any overlapping of assistance.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

On 15 June 2010, with the support from IFRC, BDRCS deployed 30 Red Crescent Youth (RCY) volunteers in the immediate aftermath of the disaster to help evacuate people affected to safer places, such as schools and other public buildings. Volunteers also assisted in repatriating the bodies of five military personnel to their relevant command post in Cox's Bazaar.



Beneficiaries collect emergency food and drinking water from a clearly marked BDRCS distribution post in Teknaf, Cox's Bazaar. (Photo: BDRCS/IFRC)

As an immediate response, on 16 June 2010, BDRCS procured emergency relief items for the most affected 455 families in Teknaf. Relief items included rice, molasses and water. These families were identified through initial assessments carried out by BDRCS staff and volunteers from the disaster response team in close cooperation with the Thana Nirbani Office (TNO) in Teknaf. The distribution took place on 17 June at four distribution points. The Thana Nirbani Office and the member of Parliament in Teknaf took part in the relief distribution of BDRCS.

A joint BDRCS/IFRC assessment team has been conducting rapid needs assessments in the affected areas.

IFRC's Bangladesh country office has released BDT 105,145 (CHF 1,695) for the purchase of dry food items. IFRC is closely monitoring the situation. Staff members from the DIPECHO programme also support the BDRCS local units in need assessments and information collection.

As part of the DREF-supported operation, BDRCS and IFRC completed the distribution of non-food items and shelter materials among 1,300 families in Ukhia, Bandarban (adjoining Ukhia) and Teknaf upazilas of Cox's Bazaar district by 29 June 2010.

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food, basic non-food items and emergency shelter materials)

Objective 1: 1,300 severely affected families or 6,500 people in two upazilas of Cox's Bazaar district receive a package of emergency and supplementary food, non-food items (NFIs) and emergency shelter materials

Progress:

BDRCS and IFRC have successfully completed the distribution of non-food item packages among the selected 1,300 families of Ukhia (including the areas adjoining Bandarban) and Teknaf upazilas of Cox's bazaar districts.

The non-food item package consisted of one piece of sari, one piece of lungi, one jerry can for water, one hygiene parcel, ten water purification tablets, five oral rehydration sachets, and a tarpaulin for emergency

shelter. These items were dispatched from BDRCS and IFRC joint disaster preparedness stock on 24 June and sent to the national society's Cox's Bazaar branch.

The trained unit level volunteers selected the beneficiaries through door-to-door visits and distributed cards from 24-26 June 2010. The volunteers informed the beneficiaries about the date and place of the distribution while distributing the cards. They also briefed them about the items and quantity of the relief package. Actual distribution began on 26 June and was completed on 29 June 2010.

The BDRCS Cox's Bazaar unit secretary and vice chairman as well as the local government representative and representative from upazilla administration were present in the distribution site. Unit executive committee and the volunteers actively took part in the distribution. Following the instructions from by the BDRCS headquarters, the associate coordinator of the DIPECHO programme coordinated the relief operation. The project manager and programme officer of IFRC DIPECHO programme provided support to the local branch in distribution. They also monitored the distribution process.

Details of the distribution are as shown as below:

Distribution date	Number of families	Upazila	Distribution Point
26 June 2010	376	Ukhia	Thyingkhali government primary school Plongkhali government primary school
26 June 2010	341	Ukhia	Muktijuddha Smrity girls school, Ukhia, Sonaicjari government primary school
28 June 2010	150	Teknaf	Rangikhali Madrash Math, Nila, Teknaf upazila complex
28 June 2010	75	Naykhonsori (Bandarban)	Goomdhum Bethbonia bazaar
29 June 2010	250	Teknaf	Upazia complex
29 June 2010	108	Ukhia	Holudia Palong

The distribution of supplementary food packages and kitchen sets will begin from the second week of July 2010. The procurement of these items is in progress.

Challenges

The prevailing monsoon caused delay in the distribution process.

Communications – information and public relations

The steady flow of timely and accurate information among those working in the field and other major stakeholders will support the programme objectives of this DREF operation. In addition, there will also be an effort to increase the profile, funding and other support for BDRCS and IFRC. In close collaboration with the operation, those affected by this emergency will be provided with information to support their relief and recovery. Donors and national societies will receive information and materials they can use to promote this operation. Also, the communications initiatives will help to build the information and public relations capacity of BDRCS for future emergencies.

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 \(NGOs\) 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.

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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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRBD007 - Bangladesh - Landslides

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/6
Budget Timeframe	2010/6-2010/9
Appeal	MDRBD007
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	125,874					125,874
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>Voluntary Income</i>	125,874					125,874
C6. Other Income	125,874					125,874
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	125,874					125,874
D. Total Funding = B + C	125,874					125,874
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	125,874					125,874
E. Expenditure	-6,654					-6,654
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	119,220					119,220

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/6
Budget Timeframe	2010/6-2010/9
Appeal	MDRBD007
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)		125,874					125,874	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	21,667							21,667
Clothing & textiles	10,617							10,617
Food	31,108	1,647				1,647		29,461
Water & Sanitation	13,433							13,433
Utensils & Tools	26,000							26,000
Total Supplies	102,825	1,647				1,647		101,178
Transport & Storage								
Storage	500							500
Distribution & Monitoring	4,167	1,415				1,415		2,751
Transport & Vehicle Costs	3,000	509				509		2,491
Total Transport & Storage	7,667	1,924				1,924		5,743
General Expenditure								
Travel	2,000							2,000
Information & Public Relation		494				494		-494
Office Costs	2,500	1,037				1,037		1,463
Communications	2,667	598				598		2,069
Financial Charges	533	548				548		-15
Total General Expenditure	7,700	2,677				2,677		5,023
Programme Support								
Program Support	7,682	406				406		7,276
Total Programme Support	7,682	406				406		7,276
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	125,874	6,654				6,654		119,220
VARIANCE (C - D)		119,220					119,220	